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THE NEWSPAPER FOR SITTINGBOURNE, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, FAVERSHAM & DISTRICT



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HARRY TAKES TRAIN TRAVEL FIGHT TO TOP

WHAT'S ON & WATCH
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FREE RAIL TRAVEL: Harry Farrow presents his petition to No 10. Search 'petition'

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ISSN 1753-123-3



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TIME TEAM MISSED OUT

A LOST Roman fort uncovered at Syndale Park, is a massive coup for town archaeologists who have succeeded where Channel 4's Time Team failed three years ago.

Director of the Kent and Archaeological Field School Dr Paul Wilkinson said he was absolutely thrilled at the discovery. He said: "We have uncovered two massive ditches side by side - both V-shaped - which could only have been built by the Roman military."

FULL STORY ON PAGE 2

■ BY JILL HURST

A PENSIONER'S fight to get free train travel in Kent for over-60s went to the top last week.

After 18 months of campaigning, Harry Farrow handed in 10,000 signatures of support to Downing Street.

The 64-year old from Kemsley was joined at Number 10 by Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson, KCC councillor Mike Whiting, and Mr Farrow's brother-in-law Alan Wood.

Speaking outside Downing Street Mr Farrow said: "It's been hard work, but it's been worth it. I would like the Government to treat pensioners in Kent the same as those in London and give them free rail travel."

"A lot of older people are trapped in their own home. Free rail travel would enable them to visit family and friends, attend hospital appointments and even return to work."

"With the help of the people on the street, who have supported me so well, I will keep going. I keep my fingers crossed in the near future we may soon have the freedom pass."

The silver rider has written more than 400 letters drumming up support, as well as selling his beloved collection of toy soldiers for £1,000 to fund the campaign.

He said bus journeys, which were free for pensioners, were no comparison to the speed of train travel.

"I went from Sittingbourne, near where I live, to Bromley South by bus and it took about four hours," he said. "Sittingbourne to Bromley South on a slow train takes 40 minutes."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

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Kent's archaeologists found what TV's Time Team missed



DIGGING IN: Dr Paul Wilkinson at the site

■ BY JILL HURST

A LOST Roman fort has been uncovered in Faversham, pointing to the march of the legions after their conquest of Britain.

The find, at Syndale Park, is a coup for town archaeologists, with the fort having eluded Channel 4's Time Team during a previous dig three years ago.

Director of The Kent and Archaeological Field School (KAFS) Dr Paul Wilkinson said he was absolutely thrilled at the discovery. He said: "We have uncovered two massive ditches side by side – both V-shaped – which could only have been built by Roman military."

"The ditches are filled with first century pottery and Watling Street goes over one of them, indicating they were built in AD50."

"The Roman invasion took place in 43AD so with seven years between the two events, the evidence suggests the ditches are part of an early Roman military fort. The

Roman town of Durolevum is close by, so the evidence fits.

"Roman forts are quite unique in Britain, certainly in the South East. We've been searching for this for a long time, so to find it by chance is quite something."

"I don't expect our conclusions to go undisputed, but as far as we are concerned, the evidence is sound."

A number of other artefacts, from the period, have been recovered during the dig including a mausoleum, pottery and a "beautiful" stone finger ring, which Dr Wilkinson believes may have been dropped accidentally by a passer-by.

The site of the lost Roman town of Durolevum is now established at Syndale Park. The town appears in the Antonine Itinerary, but its location was later forgotten until it was rediscovered by the activities of the KAFS.

Previous work by the KAFS has revealed a large settlement of Roman buildings with a plethora of Roman artefacts, including coins and metal tools.

The four-week dig has attracted students from as far away as Durham and will continue until September 9. It will be opened to the public on Saturday, September 11 between 10am and 3pm.

In addition, a number of talks and events have been organised by the Faversham Society. Dr Watkins will give a talk entitled: 'What did the Romans do for Faversham?' at the Kent Archaeological Field School in Graveney at 8pm on Tuesday, September 7.

Exhibits from the dig, will be on show at the Faversham gallery in Preston Street throughout September.

To find out more and a full list of events, contact the Faversham Society on 01795 534542 or visit www.faversham.org

Pensioner takes rail petition to No 10

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Speaking to yoursware, Mr Henderson said: "The wealth of this country was built on the hard work of pensioners. Too often we forget the debt we owe them as they get older. Free rail travel would enable them to get out and about more."

"I will continue to support Harry in his campaign and do what I can, but concerted efforts need to be made by Kent County Council to put words into action."

"I urge them to pressure the rail companies to do more and to fill some of the empty seats on trains during off-peak time."

"Rail companies say such a scheme will increase their costs but they fail to say how. They must put forward a more robust argument – they do have a responsibility and a duty to do more than they are doing now."

Mr Henderson said he believed any free travel scheme would result in wider benefits, including the improved health and social care of the elderly.

Mr Whiting said the next step in the campaign would be to get the support of full council at KCC.

He added: "I support Harry in what he is trying to achieve and hope a way can be found to pull the relevant funding together to make it happen."

"I think his next step should be to petition the county council to get their support."

Mr Farrow, a retired painter and decorator, said he would be taking a week off before the next stage of his campaign, when he will take 12,000 signatures to Kent County Council and force a full 40-minute council debate.

Campaigner Colin back at base

AN OLD friend dropped in on Faversham's St John Ambulance division to meet first aiders at the headquarters he helped build.

Colin Palmerton first came to the town in 1987 and found the St John unit was meeting in Faversham railway station's waiting room.

Together with other like-minded members, the divisional superintendent got a fund-raising campaign going and their new HQ was finally opened by Lord Astor of Hever in 1991. Mr Palmerton, 72, was visiting friends in Kent and called in to present certificates to division members. He handed over command in 2002 before retiring to the Isle of Wight.

He said he was impressed with today's division and delighted at the support it gets from the town.

He said: "We built our headquar-



WELCOME BACK: St John Ambulance staff with Colin Palmerton, seated second left, front

ters with the help and support of local people. We couldn't have done it

without them. Its good to see so many old friends."

Buzzing with enthusiasm and coming out in hives

■ BY JILL HURST

BEEKEEPING could sweep the borough as a new hobby – if a bee enthusiast gets her way.

Sudi Austin has hives all over the county and is the only bee farmer on the Isle of Sheppey, where she runs Flynn's Bee Farm.

She says without an influx of new enthusiasts honey bees will continue to be at risk, exposing our food supplies to serious threat.

"Beekeeping is such an important activity and I want to encourage people to get involved," she said. "Bees are like any other kind of livestock and they are under such pressure we must do all we can to protect them, especially in Kent where they make a contribution to our dinner plate."

A spokesman for the British Beekeepers' Association said modern farming practices were disturbing the natural habitats of bees at such a rate there was little chance for them to reestablish. The honey bee is also under attack from the varroa mite and it is only the work of beekeepers that is keeping colonies alive.

Most wild honey bees have died out as a result of the disease. According to the association, in the UK about 70 crops are dependent on or benefit from visits from bees. In addition, bees pollinate the flowers of many plants which become part of the feed of farm animals.

The economic value of honey bees and bumble bees as pollinators of commercially grown, insect-pollinated crops in the UK has been estimated by the Department of Environment at more than £250 million each year.

"It costs a bit of money to set up a hive," Suri cautioned. "You'll need to buy two hives and the bees, but the cost of a course in beekeeping is just



BEE HERE NOW: Sudi Austin of Flynn's Bee Farm wants more people to take up beekeeping as a hobby

£30. Once you've been on the course you can set up in your back garden.

"Bees are fascinating and it's a great hobby to take up. I'm happy to act as a mentor for anyone who has completed the course."

Sudi inherited Flynn's Bee Farm from her grandparents, Iris and Bill Flynn. Mr Flynn took up beekeeping as a hobby after retiring from his job as an accountant. He is widely credited for bringing propolis – the sticky antiseptic resin used by bees to seal and clean the inside of their

hives – to the UK. Having stumbled on propolis or 'bee glue' while reading medical papers, Bill gave it to his wife Iris's arthritic daughter. News of her improvement crossed the world and letters poured in inquiring about the natural remedy.

Propolis is now used to treat a variety of conditions including asthma, psoriasis and open wounds. Flynn's Bee Farm is in Elmley Road, Minster. For more information, call 01795 874935. The British Beekeepers' Association can be contacted via www.britishbee.org.uk.

Cash snatched from security guard during bank drop-off

TWO men who made off with thousands of pounds from a High Street bank on the Isle of Sheppey are being hunted by police.

The pair took the money during a raid at the LloydsTSB branch in Sheerness, just before 1pm on Friday.

A robber grabbed a cash bag as it was being handed to a bank teller by a security guard.

The female guard was pushed from behind by a youth before he ran off with the bag.

After escaping through a back exit, the robber is thought to have made off with an accomplice who was waiting in a black older style BMW car.

Accomplice

Police said no weapons were used during the robbery. The raider is described as white, in his late teens, wearing dark jeans, a grey hoodie, a blue beany hat, about 5ft 2in, of slim build and with a shaven head.

His accomplice is described white, late teens, scruffy looking and was wearing a brown knitted bobble hat.

Eye witnesses reported seeing the security guard being "koshed" over the back by the robber.

A spokesman for LloydsTSB declined to confirm if anyone was hurt in the raid, adding: "We never comment on incidents such as these."

Anyone with information about the raid is urged to contact Sheerness police on 01795 419182, or the free and confidential Crimestoppers line on 0800 555111.

Sky's the limit with Aeromet

A SWALE company has been cited as an "exemplar organisation instrumental in helping the UK move towards a more balanced economy".

Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson made the comments while visiting Aeromet International.

The company produces aluminum and magnesium sand castings, aluminium investment castings and titanium parts for the aerospace and defence industries.

Speaking about Mr Henderson's visit, chief executive Jeff Smith said: "Having open dialogue directly with Government will ensure high value manufacturing in the South East receives the support it needs."

"With the right support, manufacturing in the UK will continue to provide growth, employment and value to both the local and national economies."

Mr Henderson said: "I'm a great supporter of local businesses and delighted to have had the opportunity to discuss key issues of concern to manufacturers, particularly as it is the stated intention of the coalition Government to move towards a more balanced economy."

"Aeromet demonstrates how it is possible for local companies to be successful on the world stage through a culture of best practice, innovation and technical excellence."

Quick on the draw at charity fun day

A FAMILY-RUN business in Sittingbourne has been commended for its charity work.

Town MP Gordon Henderson spent more than two hours at a fun day organised by electrical supplier Brittain and Hobbs.

The free event attracted thousands of visitors to Roman Square with all proceeds donated to charities including the Wisdom Hospice, Sittingbourne Carnival Association, Demelza and Rachel's Intensive Care Trust.

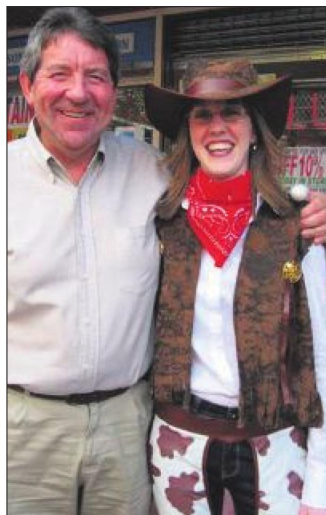
Mr Henderson attended with his wife. He said: "Brittain and Hobbs organises an annual fun day for local charities and Louise and I were delighted to lend our support."

"One of the stalls was run by my web designer, Jess MacMahon, who will be joining my full-time constituency staff next week."

"Jess ran a competition in which you had to stick a sheriff's badge on a cut out figure while blindfolded."

"It was an interesting variation on stick the tail on the donkey. Louise and I had a go and, somewhat surprisingly, I won third prize."

Brittain and Hobbs was established in 1972 and has stores in Sheerness High Street and Roman Square, Sittingbourne.



HOWDY PARDNER: Gordon Henderson at the fun day with Jess MacMahon

Special events co-ordinator Michael Prizeman said of the day: "It was our opportunity to give something back to the community. It was a great day and we thank everyone for making it such a success."

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Row means Hop Festival could be town's last

MORE THAN 30,000 people are expected to celebrate the hop festival in Faversham this weekend.

There will be plenty on offer for the whole family, including street entertainers, local produce, Morris dancing, live music and the ever-popular Spitfire steam train.

The festival recalls the days when hop-pickers would travel from London for their working holiday in the fields of Kent, bringing in the harvest and ending their stay with huge parties.

Now in its 20th year, the two-day event has become Kent's major street festival, attracting as many visitors as the county show and bringing more than £1m into the town's coffers, as well as raising funds for charities.

Committee members said they want this year's event to be the best ever because it could be their last. They have threatened to walk away from the festival after a series of rows with Swale council.

Hop festival secretary Mary Warner said: "Last July, Swale council decided to withdraw its support. This decision was taken by the executive cabinet in closed session and not referred to a full meeting of the council.

"This year a committee of unpaid volunteers has been left to raise sponsorship and wade through a minefield of licensing, event management and health and safety legislation. Volunteers have met with mainly

■ BY JILL HURST

unhelpful pedantry and downright instructiveness and the promised external community Swale arts officer has never been appointed. The original plan was to pass over the knowledge and expertise so that the festival committee could run the event by itself next year, but the general feeling among the committee is now to let somebody else put up with this nonsense."

A spokesman for Swale council said: "Councillors took the view that the hop festival is a profitable festival that is more than capable of running itself. The council will still be providing funding for the next two festivals, and we have said repeatedly that we will work with the committee so that it can take this on.

"The council has limited funding to resource events, and therefore we need to prioritise this resource. This approach to the way in which we deliver and support festivals and events will allow the council to do this more effectively and ensure value for money for the council tax payer.

"In doing this we believe that Swale will also have more opportunities for community arts groups to access our limited funding.

"We want to work with the hop festival committee to continue to deliver a successful hop festival that is enjoyed by all."

Fire crews pump out flooded homes

MORE than 60 houses became flooded in Herne Bay after heavy rainfall on Wednesday afternoon and overnight.

The fire service received about 20 emergency calls and the Herne Bay fire crew spent Thursday pumping out properties in Central Parade and Mortimer Street.

Environment Agency officers helped firemen after 30mm of rain fell in 24 hours.

The town was the worst affected in Kent, although Ramsgate and Ashford also needed emergency help from firemen.

The flooding was caused by surface water and not Plenty Brook, and there are no warnings out for the stretch of river.

Tim Connell, environment agency area operations delivery manager, said: "Because of the severity of the property flooding we decided to deploy staff with pumps to help the response effort."

Kent County Council is responsible for ensuring drains are cleaned and can take surface water away.

Kent County Council Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways and Waste Nick Chard said: "Excessive rainfall, such as we have seen in the last 24 hours, can put the existing drainage system under immense pressure. Anyone concerned can contact us on 08458 247 800."

yourcanterbury.co.uk

NEWS IN BRIEF

Donations tribute to Tom

GRIEVING friends, family and well-wishers have donated more than £2,000 to the Child Brain Injury Trust following the death of Hernehill teenager Tom Brenchley.

The 16-year-old died in hospital a day after his moped collided with a Volvo on the A299 Thanet Way on Tuesday, July 27. His family invited donations to the charity instead of flowers at the funeral, on Monday, August 9.

Dave Brenchley, Tom's police sergeant father, said: "We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all those who have supported us following Tom's loss. We have been overwhelmed by their kindness.

"It was of great comfort to see so many people attend the funeral and the generosity given towards the Child Brain Injury Trust has been truly remarkable. Thank you."

Tom would have collected his GCSE results on Tuesday and had been due to start a carpentry apprenticeship this month.

Theft left man homeless

ASHLEY O'Brien, 21, was booted out of his charity home after he threw a brick through a window to grab a £20 note.

He was seen running away from the Porchlight house in Wife of Bath Hill, Canterbury, wearing a yellow hoody.

Teresa Ruiz, prosecuting at the city's magistrates court said a description of O'Brien was given to police who soon grabbed him.

He told officers he'd put £20 rent money under a locked office door, but needed money urgently to visit his sick mother.

O'Brien admitted burgling the office.

Debbie Pizzey, defending, said O'Brien had tried to borrow from friends and couldn't get a crisis loan. He had now lost his accommodation and was back on the streets.

The case was adjourned until September 16 for probation reports.

Subway murals restored

THE dilapidated and vandalised murals in the subway near Canterbury's Odeon cinema are being restored after years of neglect.

The original artist, Elisa Hudson, will be help with the work in St George's subway once dirt and graffiti has been removed. Work begins to restore the scenes of the city in history on Monday, September 6.

We've done it again!

At the event to celebrate the outstanding achievement of high culinary standards in Indian Cuisine

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Winners of outstanding Restaurateur of the Year Award 2010



There was plenty of food for thought at the Federation of Bangladeshi Caterers' Annual Dinner & Awards Ceremony on July 18th 2010 when a host of leading politicians, restaurateurs, dignitaries, business leaders and VIPs gathered at the Lancaster London Hotel to digest inspirational speeches and superb Asian food, interspersed with fabulous Bollywood entertainment. The evening was also the occasion of the first FoBC Awards presented for excellence in the curry restaurant industry. For probably the first time in history the major organisations of the catering and hospitality industries were united on one platform to highlight the triumph of Asian restaurants and also draw attention to some of the challenges that currently face the sector as a whole.

Speakers from the world of politics included the Guest Speaker the Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills from leading catering and business organisations, speeches were also heard from John Walker, Chairman of the Federation of Small Businesses; Lord Richard Bradford Chairman of the Restaurant Association and The Association of Catering Excellence was represented by Vice Chairman Ruston Toms. Heads of high-profile businesses included Damon Swarbrick, CEO of Kingfisher.

The hi-tech presentation was hosted by Lisa Aziz, the former Sky News and ITV West anchor, who added even more glamour to the glittering occasion in the candlelit Nine Kings Suite



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I'm back in the zone after a little 'wobble'

■ BY JILL HURST

EIGHTEEN pounds down at week seven of the community weight loss challenge and I'm back on track.

After having a bit of a "wobble" last week it's all systems go again. I've increased my gym visits to five times a week and I've signed up to a charity run in December.

Moreover, I was delighted to learn my waist has shrunk by 9cm and my blood pressure has fallen significantly. At the start of the challenge it was 140/88 but last week had dropped to 122/62.

Skinnies take note: a lack of padding doesn't inoculate you from high blood pressure.

The reason for high blood pressure isn't always obvious but often it's due to stress, being overweight, too much salt, too much alcohol, lack of exercise, not eating enough fruit and vegetables, or family history.

So what is blood pressure? Put simply, it's the pressure of blood in your arteries. When your heart beats, it pumps blood around your body to give it the energy and oxygen it needs. As the blood moves, it pushes the sides of your blood vessels. The strength of the pushing is your blood pressure.

Blood pressure is measured in two parts. While systolic blood pressure is the pressure



inside your heart as it beats or contracts, diastolic is the pressure between those beats.

According to the British Heart Foundation the target blood pressure is below 140/85. However, if you've had a heart attack or stroke or have diabetes or coronary artery disease, it should be below 130/60.

High blood pressure, or hypertension, is not usually something you feel or notice, but without intervention over time your heart may become abnormally large and beat less effectively. Eventually the extra strain on your arteries and heart could result in a heart attack or stroke.

The other bit of good news is my shrinking waist and the associative reduction in visceral fat, considered the worst type of fat because it surrounds your vital organs.

You don't have to be overweight to have a high concentration of fat around your midriff and it's been linked to diabetes, which in Swale is above the national average.

Visceral fat also makes you more susceptible to heart disease, stroke, and high blood pressure. Sedentary people, smokers and drinkers have been shown to have more of this type of fat.

Walking five times a week for 30 minutes is considered the best exercise to reduce the amount of visceral fat in the body.

To find out more, visit www.bhf.org.uk. The British Heart Foundation's heart helpline is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 6pm on 0300 330 3311.

SEVEN WEEKS LATER

	WEEK 1	WEEK 7	CHANGE
Weight:	16st 11lb	14st 11lb	-18lb
Body fat:	42.4%	39.5%	-2.9%
Water:	43.4%	45.4%	+2.0%
Muscle:	8st 11lb	8st 7lb	-4lb
Visceral fat:	10	8	-2.0
Chest:	113cm	107cm	-6cm
Waist:	112 cm	103cm	-9cm
Hips:	123 cm	119cm	-4cm



BACK ON TRACK: Jill Hurst feels the burn in the gym

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QUESTION & ANSWER

GORDON HENDERSON



Q You've been in the Commons a few months now. You said it felt a bit surreal at the beginning - how does it feel now?

A I still have to pinch myself when I read in newspapers that our MP had done this or that - and then realise the story is about me.

I've coped pretty well and feel I'm starting to have an impact. For instance, I've made a couple of speeches and raised important local issues on the floor of the House.

Q They say the real deals are brokered in the corridors of Westminster and not in the chamber - is this true?

A I'm not sure it is true. Yes, it's important to be able to buttonhole ministers in the division lobbies, which I have done, but raising an issue on the floor of the House can have far more impact. For instance, during the summer adjournment debate I made a speech about the threatened closure of Sittingbourne Magistrates' Court. Later I followed up the speech by visiting the Justice Ministry. When I met the minister, Jonathan Djanogly, he had in front of him a copy of my speech, which set out clearly my argument for saving our court.

That speech is recorded in Hansard and set in stone. A whispered conversation does not carry the same weight.

Q Some have given the coalition Government a year to 18 months before the wheels come off - any thoughts?

A MPs are about to be asked to pass a bill that will create five-year fixed term parliaments.

If that happens, and I have no reason to believe that it won't, then the next general election will be in May, 2015. That's how long I think the coalition will last.

Q Do you think elements of the media are unduly cynical where politics is concerned?

A A cynical fourth estate is vital to our democracy.

Q You've been outspoken about Boris Johnson and his plan for an estuary airport off Sheppey. If you meet him, what will you say?

A I'll tell him his plan is bonkers and if he believes it's ever going to happen, so is he.

Q Was securing funding for Sheppey Academy your first major achievement? How did it feel receiving the news?

A I was delighted and I'm pleased and proud if my input helped secure the building programme. But let's not forget all the other people, including councillors of all political parties and the academy staff, who lobbied the Department for Education equally hard.

Q You've joined thousands of others on the great commute.

A I've settled into a pattern of commuting that works pretty well for me. I drive up to town on Monday and Tuesday, leaving at 5.30am and getting home at about midnight, and catch the train on Wednesday and

Thursday, catching the 7am service and getting home about 9pm. So far there have been few horrendous journeys, but we still have winter to come.

Q The cost of commuting seems a little out of reach for many people who could work in London.

A I agree, which is why I'm working with [North Thanet MP] Roger Gale and the local rail users' group to lobby for a fairer deal for rail travellers in the South East, who always seem to be hit hardest by fare rises.

Q Do members of different parties set their differences aside out of hours?

A MPs are human and have the same good and bad points as everybody else. Some colleagues - on all sides of the House - are sociable, others are like planks of wood. No different to any other workplace.

Q You never gave up wanting to be an MP, spending ten years on the election trail. Was it worth it?

A Yes. At last I feel I can actually do something to help improve my community.

Q Finally, anything you want to share with the readers of Yourswale?

A I would like to reassure readers that I have not changed since becoming an MP. I am still part of the community I love and will always be there for them if they need me.

Q&A

The recently elected MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey talks to reporter **Jill Hurst** about how it's gone so far, what he thinks of his fellow MPs and what he'd say to London Mayor Boris Johnson if he ever met him

Want to play in a PGA Pro-Am?

The Demelza Cup

Kent based European Tour player Benn Barham is hosting a PGA Pro-Am at Prince's Golf Club on Friday 1st October 2010. The day will incorporate the final of the Demelza Cup where club qualifiers from across Kent and E.Sussex will compete for the individual trophy, but team and individual places are available for the Pro-Am competition.

Benn has arranged for a number of European, Challenge and PGA Southern Region Tour players to take part, so why not take the opportunity of seeing how the game's really played by playing with the pros on one of the best courses in the country. Teams of 3 and individual places are available at £150 per person

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...protection is our passion

Plenty left in the tank, says restoration team

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

HISTORIC tanks which dominated the battlefields of World War One could be restored to their former glory thanks to a revolutionary technique pioneered in Kent.

The Maidstone-based Military Vehicle Foundation hopes to rebuild four armoured vehicles in time for the 100th anniversary of the conflict in 2014, but must first raise £2.3 million.

Ashford's famous Mark IV tank, which currently stands as a registered war memorial in St George's Square, is one of the vehicles in line for a makeover.

Should the restoration cash be made available, skilled engineers at the charity will use a process known as annealing to strengthen steel which has become brittle with age.

Manager David Ridd said: "The problem is that if you went out and drove a World War One tank today, it would shake itself to pieces in a very short space of time.

"But we've come up with a process that allows us to reinvigorate, bend and shape the steel so that it lasts, because there's no point restoring tanks with old plates.

"Tanks are interesting in the sense that they give you an insight into exploring issues around war. When you're trying to engage people and teach them about 20th century history, they're really compelling tools."



ARMoured SUPPORT: Sharon Bowles MEP with Michael Gibb, of the Military Vehicle Foundation and Richard Smith, director of the Tank Museum (left), and Ashford's famous WWI Mark IV tank in St George's Square



Based in a workshop at Rugmer Hill Farm, Yalding, the Military Vehicle Foundation has been restoring old tanks, jeeps and more since 1997 and has been a charity since 2000.

It also gives young people and young offenders the opportunity to learn about engineering by offering work experience placements, and has a re-offending rate of just 3.7 per cent.

Mr Ridd said the foundation was working with war museums throughout Europe in an attempt to bring the tank restoration project to fruition.

He added: "The centenary of the start of World War One is going to be a major international event, and what we are looking at is restoring four tanks to full running condition.

"One is the Mark IV in Ashford and we also have two French tanks in bits in our workshop. We also want to restore a German LKII, of which only two prototypes were ever made."

Mr Ridd revealed the foundation hoped to secure grants from a range of European funding agencies, including the Heritage Lottery Fund, but added it was still "very early days".

South East MEP Sharon Bowles – chairwoman of the European Parliament's economic and monetary affairs committee – has already pledged her support.

She said: "There is enormous historic and cultural significance attached to these vehicles, which are some of the rarest examples of modern engineering in the world.



TOP TRIBUTE: The Counterfeit Beatles

Beatles tribute band in charity concert

ACCLAIMED band the Counterfeit Beatles are headlining a charity gig at Mount Ephraim gardens this weekend.

The Beatles tribute act will be joined by local group The Muswells at the Hernhill country estate, near Faversham, on Sunday for an outdoor concert to raise money for CLIC Sargent, a charity caring for children with cancer.

Entry is from 5.30pm and tickets will be available at the gate priced £10, with all proceeds going to the charity.

Advance bookings can be made through the restaurant at Mount Ephraim, or by calling Diane on 01227 731168.

Windsurfer rescued

A WINDSURFER had to be rescued after being blown out to sea by an offshore wind of force six to seven off Minster beach, on the Isle of Sheppey.

RNLI Sheerness raced to the scene at 4.15pm on Monday, August 23, to find a man sitting on his board following rig failure. He was taken aboard the lifeboat and ferried to shore where he was met by coastguards. The volunteer crew was back at base by 5.10pm.

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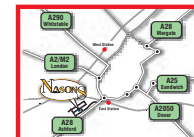


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M20 barrier plan to end motorists' Stack of troubles



MOTORWAY misery caused by Operation Stack could be reduced if plans to extend use of the moveable barrier get the go-ahead.

The barrier separates free-flowing traffic from lorries parked on the M20 but can only currently be used when phase one of Stack is implemented, affecting the stretch between Hythe and Cheriton, junctions 11 and 12.

However, Kent County Council wants it to be extended to cover phase two – between Maidstone East and Ashford, junctions 8 and 9 – to stop vehicles clogging the A20 when the motorway is closed.

The barrier keeps the M20 open by dividing the motorway to create parking space for lorries on one side and allowing other traffic to keep moving on the rest of the highway.

Operation Stack was last implemented over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend due to industrial action by ferry staff in France.

It is also used when there are problems with the Channel Tunnel or when severe weather causes cross-Channel service delays at the Port of Dover.

Cabinet member for highways Cllr Nick Chard said: "We know how important it is to keep traffic moving."

"Kent businesses lose money whenever Operation Stack is implemented and motorists suffer the knock-on effects from traffic spilling onto the county's roads."

Impact

"By working closely with other agencies and the cross-Channel operators we are seeking to minimise the impact of Stack. In future this will be better all round for Kent's travelling public."

Earlier this year, Kent Police Authority called for a long-term solution to Stack after revealing the bill for policing foreign drivers during 2008-09 cost taxpayers about £2 million.

The Federation of Small Businesses has estimated that blockades at Calais can cost the UK haulage industry £1m a day, and a further half a million daily due to delivery delays and traffic problems.

KCC is developing plans for a possible lorry park near Aldington as an alternative to Stack, but the proposals have been met with fierce opposition from residents.

KCC said it was continuing to explore ways of improving the way Stack is implemented, as well as to improve communications with the Port of Dover.

A Highways Agency official said: "We continue to work with KCC, Kent Police and other agencies to manage the impact of congestion caused by disruptions in service at the Port of Dover or the Channel Tunnel."

"We are looking at how we can contain more lorries during phase one of Stack so we can minimise the number of times phase two needs to be implemented."

EU protection extended to offshore sandbanks

MARINE habitats and species living around the Kent coast have been granted special protection under EU law.

Margate and Long Sands sandbank, which starts north of the Thanet coast and stretches to the outer reaches of the Thames Estuary, was named among 15 new Marine Protected Areas based on its importance for commercial fish species such as plaice and sole.

The sandbank acts as a nursery for fish and supports sand eel communities which are a food source for seabirds and mammals.

The outer Thames Estuary on the north Kent

coast has also been included as a special area of conservation, specifically as a protection area for birds.

Protection status allows limits on development, fishing, moorings and stops people removing marine life. These areas are among the first offshore habitats in the UK to gain protection under EU law.

Chris McMullon, marine and coastal seas specialist for Natural England, said: "Margate and Long Sands is an important area of sandbanks, which are important marine habitats."

"And the outer Thames Estuary is being des-

ignated because it is a major site for overwintering red-throated divers. These are important sites and we welcome the contribution they make to environmental diversity."

The Government submitted the two sites to the European Commission to be included in the Natura 2000 network of protected areas.

Marine environment minister Richard Benyon said the sea needed as much protection as land.

"This is a major step forward in helping us to achieve clean, healthy and vibrant seas where marine life can thrive," he added.

Quota swap deal offers lifeline to fishing boats

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

FISHERMEN at risk of financial ruin have won a reprieve after industry chiefs allowed them to resume operations in the North Sea.

In July we revealed that stocks of sole and skate had already run out in the fishery, but following a successful campaign the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has increased the allocation of sole for owners of boats under ten metres.

However, the MMO also warned that supplies of sole, plaice, skate and ray are running dangerously low in the English Channel, and that fishermen may have to reduce their monthly catch if they want to survive the year.

South Thanet MP Laura Sandys welcomed the North Sea increase, which came as the result of swap negotiations with the Netherlands and Germany.

She said: "I'm thrilled our fishermen are now able to go back to sea following negotiations by fisheries minister Richard Benyon and his team with other EU countries to get extra quotas."

"This has illustrated how dysfunctional the current quota system is and how reform is so badly needed. The minister is committed to ensuring that reform will truly serve our under ten-metre boats in future. I know how difficult it has been for many of our fishermen, and how close some have come to bankruptcy."

Fishermen angry at the quotas staged a protest at Whitstable harbour in August.

Boat-owner Phil Edwards said at the time that although 95 per cent of the country's fishing fleet is made up of under ten-metre boats, they only have access to about four per cent of the total UK quota.

Last week he added that the low fish stocks in the Channel were partly due to the problem in the North Sea, which had caused fishermen to look elsewhere for their catch.

The two Channel fisheries affected – known as VIId and VIlE – cover an area between Hythe Bay and the Isle of Wight, and the Isle of Wight and Cornwall respectively.

MMO chairman Chris Parry said: "Quotas are set annually by the European Commission and the MMO has the difficult task of ensuring stocks are managed throughout the year to maximise the fishing opportunities for the UK industry, while ensuring stocks are not overfished and the UK government and taxpayer do not have to pay steep penalties."

Meanwhile, containment areas restricting the movement of diseased oysters remain in place across the Swale, Thames and north Kent coast.

Officers from the Fish Health Inspectorate imposed the restrictions after an outbreak of herpes at a shellfish farm off Whitstable.

A spokesman said the containment areas would only be lifted once two inspections held 15 days apart concluded that no further oysters were dying.



BACK TO SEA: Owners of smaller fishing vessels have earned a reprieve after an EU quota swap deal

'Politicisation of parenting' worries academic

Picture: ANDREW ARONS



HAPPY PARENTS: Samantha and David Cameron

A LEADING academic says David Cameron should get on with running the country instead of worrying too much about his new baby.

Dr Ellie Lee is a lecturer in social policy at the University of Kent.

She said parents were being overrun with advice on how to bring up their children and often it is simply not needed.

Mr Cameron has said he plans to take paternity leave to spend time with his new daughter and wife Samantha.

Dr Lee said: "I very much doubt he really is going to take time off to look after the baby."

"Pretty much anyone can look after a newborn baby, but not everyone can be Prime Minister."

"There is an oddness about this kind of discussion now. It is very predicatable that he would say these kinds of things."

Florence Rose Endellion was born by caesarean section, weighing 6lb 10z, while the Prime Minister and his wife were on holiday in Cornwall. Dr Lee said former PM Tony Blair was pictured on the steps of Downing Street in shirt sleeves telling the world he was an ordinary dad.

She added: "We are told if you are not a full-on involved father, then you are a bad father."

She said fatherhood had become politicised by what Mr Blair and, later, Gordon Brown did, adding: "Obviously, politicians can't then exempt themselves from the message they are putting out. My own view is that all this is very unfortunate. The politicisation of child-rearing hasn't helped families."

"I find it disturbing that as a culture we seem so blasé about what is happening to the way we discuss things between parents and children."

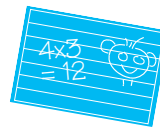
"People should be able to bring their children up in a way they see fit. We are always being told there is somebody else who knows best and we have to have a guru."

Dr Lee said families should be allowed to cope with the trials and tribulations of bringing up their children, complete with mistakes, so they can learn naturally.

It has been claimed Mr Cameron will be seeking the advice of a fatherhood expert, which Dr Lee frowns upon.

She said: "I don't know if he is, but this seems to be a message that Downing Street is putting out that this is what a good father does. I find this general trend very worrying."

• What's in a name? See Yourblogger on the Letters page.



BREAK TIME

New circus tricks taught on fun day

YEAR eight students at Borden Grammar School in Sittingbourne enjoyed learning some new and unusual skills after being given the chance to spend a day with a circus company.

Juggling, plate spinning and diabolo were just some of the activities the youngsters were encouraged to try out with trainers from the Kent Circus School.

A spokesman for the school said: "A period of extraordinary concentration set in as pupils dedicated themselves to mastering the skills themselves."



"Freddie Coulter, a year 11 student, who has been learning circus skills for some time came along to help the younger boys, and a number of staff were also seen having a go."

"All in all it was a day that offered a lot of fun and challenge to the students involved and one we look forward to repeating in the future."

Grades are above national average

FIGURES released by KCC suggest 77.7 per cent of the district's students achieved five GCSEs A* to C grades this year – an improvement of 4.7 percent on 2009 and 8.6 percent above the national average.

More than half of students (55.9 per cent) achieved the key benchmark of five A* to C, including English and maths.



NEW LOOK: Now the Government has confirmed it will fund renovation of the Isle of Sheppey Academy, designs for the school will go on public display for all to see

It's time to take a look at the future of education

■ BY JILL HURST

DESIGNS for the Isle of Sheppey Academy will be offered up for public scrutiny next month.

The academy – which opened last September – learned earlier this month the Government will fund the renovation of the buildings at the east and west end of the island.

A spokesman for Kent County Council said: "The distinctive and stunning new buildings will be designed to provide students with the best academic and vocational education."

"Sheppey residents, parents and pupils will be able to have their say on what they think about the proposals. Members of the construction and design team will be available to answer questions."

Kent County Council is yet to confirm if the original sum of £54 million will be awarded or if this has been reduced as part of the wider cost cutting process.

Gordon Henderson, MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, has said the original plan may be revisited to find ways of making savings.

Sarah Hohler, cabinet member for children, families and education at KCC said: "We have been working hard to improve the provision of education on Sheppey for some years."

"We are particularly pleased that, as co-sponsor of the new academy, the coalition Government has listened to the priority we have given to this project and has given the

go-ahead for the work to continue.

"This is a huge opportunity for the island and we want to involve the whole community in the new academy. We hope families of current and future students will have their say as we develop two iconic buildings to provide 21st century education."

Proposals for the east site will be on display at the Isle of Sheppey Academy east (auditorium), Minster Road, Minster on Sea, on Monday, September 13 from 4-8pm. Proposals for the west site will be on show at the Isle of Sheppey Academy west (Brabazon Hall), Jefferson Road, Sheerness, on Tuesday September 14 from 4-8pm.

For further information contact Ian Tucker at Kent County Council on 01622 694934 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/news.

SEND your schools news and pictures to yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk. You can also upload your video clips of schools events on to www.yourkenttv.co.uk

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YOUR LETTERS



Faversham is the lost half of Swale

I was shocked and disappointed to read your front page story last week that Swale council has slashed its funding for the Hop Festival.

And I was equally surprised to see that Swale council had, in my eyes anyway, wasted £36,000 of our money on the arts festival which as you rightly pointed out lasted just four hours.

These councillors forget they are dealing with our money.

I think the point was well made that Swale ignores Faversham and the organisers' suggestion that they change the name to the Sittingbourne Hop Festival, whilst firmly tongue in cheek, did capture that obvious bias there is toward the west of our district.

The Hop festival is one of our biggest attractions and if there is anything that puts us on the map this is it. Think again Swale councillors and try to be fair in your allocation of grants.

Of course with the current cuts they are facing, there may well be less cash to go around in future years. The good news is at least you won't be able to waste so much of our money.

Johan Smythe,
by email

There are better things to fund

Your front page story last week about funding cuts to the Hop Festival while apparently £36,000 was handed over for a four hours art event was interesting.

I think the Faversham Hop Festival is a marvellous event that deserves support.

But do not forget the arts are a vital part of cultural life, something we are sorely lacking around these parts. You can not compare the two events, so it's unfair to do so. However, I do think the council should look at what it is there to do and make that a priority: empty our bins.

Practically everything else can be done more cheaply elsewhere and sponsoring art festivals is not a priority any more... and the truth is, neither is a festival to celebrate beer.

Mr E Dawkins,
by email

your blogger

Florence Tennent offers the Prime Minister's new baby daughter some advice on her name...



SO, in case you missed several days of 24-hour rolling news coverage, PM David Cameron has named his new daughter Florence Rose Endellion Cameron.

Endellion after the Cornish village where the couple were holidaying when 6lbs 1oz Flo popped out a month early on August 24. No one seems to know why Rose, and the best guess for Florence so far is Mr Cameron's professed fondness for the band Florence and the Machine.

Being a Florriebunder myself I was asked what advice I could offer to our newest celebrity offspring.

My relationship with my name has been stormy to say the least, with a 13-year-old Floflo announcing to her bemused classmates that from now on they could call her Crystabel (that's how much I liked it).

Two main points had driven my teenage self to this point of nominal suicide. Firstly, there were two stock responses to the name, either an "Ooh, where's your lamp?", in reference to the ubiquitous Victorian nurse Florence Nightingale, or a chorus of The Magic Roundabout's discordant circus theme tune.

At the time I summed up the general perception of Flossie as 'Great Aunt Flo-ism'; Flo-jo hit the peak of its popularity in Victorian times and to most people Florencia was the name of a grandmother or other elderly relative. Unfortunately for me, this was particularly well portrayed by Little Britain, which ran

a skit featuring two cross-dressing 'ladies' Florence and Emily (Emily is my middle name, I kid you not).

The other problem with my name was the total lack of cool nicknames, the truly worst example being Flofie Wofie which amused my friends so much they kept it up well beyond its sell-by-date. Even Flo was an issue after giggling American kids informed me this usually referred to a woman's monthlies.

But, dear Florence Cameron, don't despair. Your naming is proof that, as I have claimed for several years, Florence is coming back.

My first indication came when another Florence joined my school. I realised not only had I secretly enjoyed being the only Florence, but perhaps there were more Florences out there. The advent of Facebook confirmed my suspicions; hundreds of thousands of Flos signed up to a group called "So your name is Florence too?" and shared their nickname woes.

Government statistics backed us up when Florence crashed back into the charts in 2008 as the 94th most popular baby girl name in England and Wales.

Finally our big moment came when Florence and the Machine, a band fronted by the charismatic Florence Welch, dented the top 50 music charts in 2009. At last, a famous Florence we could be proud of.

Now the PM's got a Florence, I'll admit I was worried everyone was going to want one. But I'm proud I get to be one of the forerunners of the Florence comeback, making Flo cool for future generations. Welcome aboard Flossie C, we need all the help we can get.

If there is a story in your area you think we should be covering contact the news editor, **Gareth Arnold**, on 01303 817025 or email him on the details above. If you want to be the next Swale blogger then all you have to do is submit an article to us (of around 550 words) and email it to the editor. And don't forget, for all the latest news and video from your town log-on to www.yourswale.co.uk.



years and sometimes worry that the pressures on our young are too great. So, for those who have done well congratulations and consider carefully your future options, whether it be university or college.

For those who did not do so well, do not despair. There are many options that can set you back on the path to academic success, and if you are more practically minded investigate the opportunities offered by the colleges.

Remember, there are many graduates still working in fast food restaurants, but you never meet a plumber or the owner of a hairdresser who is poor.

Charles Wramplington, by email

Students are worthy of high praise indeed

Well done all the youngsters who did so well (again) in their A-levels and GCSEs.

I think they should all be proud of themselves; it is an achievement and today's competitive school and work environment makes it all the more important for them to be congratulated.

Celia Jenkins, by email

Don't despair if you failed to make grade

I would just like to congratulate all the youngsters who have passed their exams. This is an important time in their lives and decisions made now will help set them on the path to adulthood.

I was a teacher for more than 30



Celebrity golf day's just par excellence

I would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone along to Biddenden's Chart Hills Golf Course this weekend.

It's the Dave Lee Celebrity Golf Classic. It'll be a fun day out, you'll

be helping to raise money for a worthy cause and there's sure to be more than a few famous faces too.

It's on Sunday September 5 from 10am and for more details at www.daveleehappyholidays.org.uk.

Dean Headley, by email

More of our cash is wasted on Europe

It has been revealed that the 35,000 bureaucrats of the EU are on course for three pay rises in the next 12 months, boosting their already extortionate salaries by more than five per cent.

Even though families across Europe are being called to make huge sacrifices in helping their countries come out of or 'ride out' the recession, Brussels bureaucrats need more money. Its good to see how Britain's £45 million a day contribution to the EU is being used, which should be helping poorer families in this county during the recession.

To illustrate how extortionate the salaries of these Eurocrats are; last month it emerged that more than 1,000 Eurocrats are paid more than the Prime Minister, whose £142,500 is dwarfed by Herman Van Rompuy earning £245,000 plus expenses as EU president.

To add to this, the EU have also opened their new luxurious Embassy in Washington, with them planning to have 140 in all. Far more than can be afforded, but this shows how this vast expansion derives

directly from the powers transferred from the nations to Brussels in the Lisbon Treaty. The treaty that the failed old parties said contained nothing of consequence or concern, telling us it was bringing other documents together, despite most politicians never reading, let alone understanding it.

Clearly, the EU is not representing the people of Britain and it is not value for money. It should now be up to the British public in a referendum, whether Britain should continue to take part in this hypocrisy.

Stephen Trafford

UKIP Sittingbourne and Sheppey Secretary
108 Park Road, Sittingbourne
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Rural 'stitching' is in need of protection

Hedgerows are one of the most iconic features of the English landscape and it's important we do everything we can to halt and reverse their loss and degradation.

Our survey shows that the Hedgerows Regulations have made a positive difference, but it also makes clear improvements can, and should be made.

Local authorities have shown that, given the opportunity, they will protect these wonderful examples of our rural heritage.

It's over a decade since the introduction of the Hedgerows Regulations and the time is ripe for the new government to make improvements that will give local authorities the power they need to better protect the great diversity of England's hedgerows.

Hedgerows are the vital stitching in the patchwork quilt of the English countryside.

They lend beauty and character to the landscape and provide many wider environmental benefits, including important habitats for a wide range of wildlife species.

It is a criminal offence to remove an important hedgerow, with fines of up to £5,000. However, as management of hedgerows has declined, many are being lost not only to removal, but as they degenerate into lines of trees and shrubs.

They are particularly important within areas of intensive farming, and for the survival of widespread, but declining species which are dependant on woodland edge, scrub or rough grassland habitats.

As ready-made corridors for wildlife to move through the landscape, they should be a critical tool in the landscape-scale conservation of our natural environment that the new Government wants to see.

However, regulations on their own, even with the improvements we would like to see, will not do enough to protect our hedgerows for future generations.

We also need ministers to continue funding Environmental Stewardship Schemes that give landowners an incentive to preserve ancient hedgerows. These could be put at risk if cuts to Government spending fall in the wrong place.

Emma Marrington, rural policy campaigner
for Campaign to Protect Rural England

Rescue charity's after change to dog breeding law

A MAJOR overhaul of animal laws is necessary to help banish Britain's stray dog problem, claims a Kent rescue charity.

David and Heidi Anderson, of the Dover-based Chancepixies, have launched a petition calling for a 'fit for breeding' legislation to regulate breeders of all levels and ensure they are not dumping their dogs when the going gets tough.

They claim the problem of stray dogs will be eradicated within ten years if the Government implements their idea, which has so far earned the backing of more than 500 people.

"There is legislation already in place to control farm animals and fishing, and to prevent you dumping your fridge or your car, so why not dogs?" said Mrs Anderson.

"Dogs, unlike children, do not grow up and become responsible for themselves. If you choose to bring puppies into the world, you must retain some responsibility throughout that dog's life."

According to a 2007 report commissioned by the RSPCA and the World Society for the Protection of Animals, only 30 per cent of European countries – including the UK – do not

■ BY STEVE KNIGHT

enforce compulsory licensing for dog breeders.

And of the eight European countries deemed to have good stray control, all have legislation in place for the breeding and selling of pets.

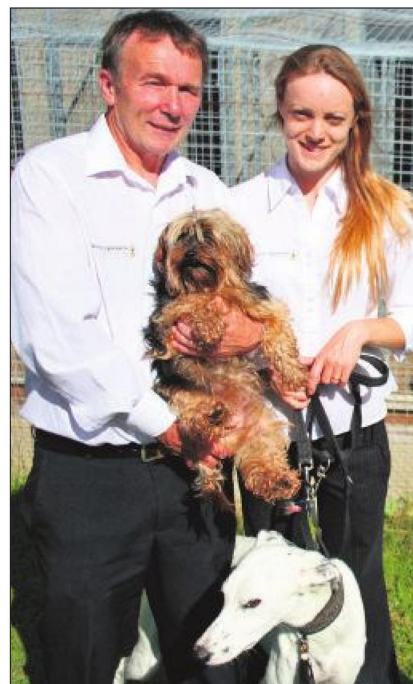
The Andersons are also breeders of champion Dobermanns and say those willing to breed animals should also be willing to rescue them, too.

"If you won't rescue, don't breed," said Mrs Anderson. "It would be good to get people to realise there is a big difference between responsible and irresponsible breeders."

Legislation

"A responsible breeder should always take back a puppy, for whatever reason, throughout that dog's life, and always be there for help and support if needed. This change in legislation is needed to introduce a sensible solution."

"Thousands of people are admitted to hospital every year with dog-related injuries, millions of pounds of taxpayers' money is spent every year on stray dogs, and thousands are sitting



ACTION NEEDED: Heidi and David Anderson would like to see the Government tighten current breeding regulations

alone, unwanted and abandoned."

Mrs Anderson added: "This legislation will also uncover the falsification of pedigrees that allows banned breeds to be re-introduced into the UK for fighting and intimidation of the public."

"This can all change if the breeding of dogs is controlled."

Just over 500 people have already signed the Andersons' petition, but they want 10,000 before it is submitted to Parliament.

• Visit www.chancepixies.com and click on the 'fit for breeding' tab to add your name.

Abandoned mum and pups highlight problem

POTENTIAL dog owners are being urged to think twice following an increase in the number of greyhounds being abandoned in Kent.

The appeal comes from the Rochester-based Greyhound Rescue West of England (GRWE), which took in and rehomed 763 dogs last year, compared to 513 in 2008.

But the worrying increase in dumped lurchers could swell that figure to as much as 1,000 this year, including greyhounds no longer wanted after their racing careers are over.

Kent regional homing officer Janet Lindsay highlighted the case of a saluki cross called Suri, spotted tied to a fence outside a dog pound weeks after giving birth. Two days later a box containing her eight puppies, all of which were in an appalling state of neglect, was dumped outside a nearby veterinary surgery.

All nine animals narrowly escaped being put to sleep and were instead placed into the care of the charity.

Mrs Lindsay said: "Both Suri and her pups are in a poor condition, suffering from sarcoptic mange which is so itchy it is causing them quite a bit of distress, leaving their skin broken and raw."

GRWE is run entirely by volunteers. Already overwhelmed with the number of dogs in kennels and foster care, and a growing waiting list, emergencies like this put further stress on a charity that relies solely on donations from the public to carry out its rescue and rehoming work. GRWE currently has about 80 dogs in its care, including 21 puppies. To offer a home to one of the dogs or to help the charity financially, visit www.grwe.com or call 07000 785 092.

Meanwhile, the Retired Greyhound Trust is also appealing for new owners as its kennels in Meopham, contain more than 40 dogs with nowhere to go.

Spokesman Ivor Stocker said: "Greyhounds make fantastic pets. When they leave the track they turn from speed machines into docile couch potatoes who love to loll around and get fussed over. All they want is a loving family or owner to look after them."

Call 01474 815273 for more information.

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LIVE & LOCAL

Hypnotic show arrives

LOSE yourself in the Hypnotic Experience Show at the Granville Theatre in Ramsgate.

On Friday comedy hypnotist Steve Marshall will draw on 15 years of experience to present an evening of hypnosis.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £10/£9. To book, call the box office on 01843 591750.

Friday night love story

A CONTEMPORARY love story is played out in Fourth Wall's new show, Friday Night Forever.

Playing out over three acts, the show boasts a variety of musical styles. The production can be seen at the Tower Theatre in Folkestone next Wednesday to Friday. Tickets cost £7.50.

To book call 01303 223925 or visit www.towertheatrefolkestone.co.uk.

Romance for writers

BUDDING authors can join Chantella Shaw for a creative writing workshop at Sandwich Library on Tuesday.

The workshop, which will have a romantic theme, starts at 2.30pm and admission is free, but places are limited. To book call 01304 613819.

Panto talent search

YOUNG performers can audition to be part of the Marlowe Theatre's pantomime, Robin Hood.

Boys and girls aged eight to 15 can audition at the Prince of Wales Youth Centre in Military Road, Canterbury at 11am on Sunday.

Successful candidates will be asked to stay behind. To find out more, email ali@evolution-productions.co.uk.

Ghurkhas display at fair

GURKHA children and soldiers will give displays at the Grand Village Fair at Lympne village hall and playing fields on Sunday.

There will also be Nepalese food, sideshows, craft stalls, arena events, a children's funfair, majorettes, karate, a fancy dress competition and more. The event runs from 1pm to 4.30pm.

African choir concert

ENJOY the sounds of Africa with a special concert at Canterbury Cathedral on Tuesday.

David Fanshawe's African Sanctus will be performed by the National Combined Choir from USCT and ULT Schools. The concert will be in the Nave at 7.30pm.

To book tickets, visit www.african-santus2010.com.

Fureys star plays folk

CELTIC folk star Davey Arthur visits the Tom Thumb Theatre in Cliftonville next Monday and Tuesday.

As a member of The Fureys, Arthur is one of Ireland's best-loved musical exports. He will be joined by his son Patrick.

The concerts start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £8. To book, call 01843 221791 or visit www.wegottickets.co.uk.

2Tone returns at Ska festival

FOLKESTONE SKABOUR FESTIVAL

Friday, September 3 to Sunday, September 5
Various venues, Folkestone



DIG out your hats and shades and get ready to move those feet at the Folkestone Skabour Festival.

Across the three-day event, 14 bands and 13 DJs will be giving ska fans the chance to indulge in their favourite sound, with performances from some of the most exciting acts in the genre.

There will be two days of free music at the harbour and ticketed events in the evenings that will help to support the free entertainment. Rhoda Dakar will be among the DJs performing during the festival, alongside Tony B and Tone the Skin, Hot Bomb Hi-Fi, DJ Toast and more. Bands taking to the stages include The Beat, Arthur Kay and the Originals, Intensified, Simian Artillery, the Swinging Cats and the Scaredy Cats.

The festival is the vision of John 'Teflon' Sims, a graphic designer who worked with Jerry Dammers of the Specials to create the iconic imagery associated with the 2Tone movement. His work will be on display in three venues in the town during the festival, which is the first Skabour event to be held in Folkestone.

Sims' exhibition of his designs, This ART 2-Tone, has been shown in Margate, Brighton and Coventry, known as the 'Holy Grail of 2-Tone', along with mini exhibitions in New York and London. When he considered bringing his art to his hometown of Folkestone, the idea of a music festival was born.

"Putting on the first of any music festival is always a journey into the unknown," Sims said. "The event is as much about supporting the Folkestone regeneration initiative as it is about the music."

"The town has fantastic potential as a festival venue, both for local people and those further afield, particularly now that with the high-speed train from London, Folkestone is the nearest coastal resort in terms of time from the capital."

"We want people to know what a great place this is, endorsed by the fact that it has been designated the 17th best seaside town in the UK in a survey published this month."

Along with the great music, other attractions include a ska market and the 'show and shine', an organised scooter ride-out around the town. It is hoped that up to 150 vintage scooters will take part in the ride-out, making an impressive sight as they cruise around the



ROCK STEADY: DJ Rhoda Dakar will be performing at the festival alongside Arthur Kay and the Originals



streets of Folkestone.

Judging by the initial reaction to news of a ska festival in Folkestone, Sims hopes that visitors will flock to the town to be a part of it.

"Once the word was out, we were overwhelmed with the response from ska bands, DJs, fans, scooter clubs and the general public," he said. "Folkestone Skabour will be THE ska music event on this year's calendar. Many of the gigs will be free to attend and the concept is to do this for love of the music, rather than the money."

The festival kicks off when The Beat plays at Quarterhouse on Friday, supported by Skatonics. Tickets cost £16. Arthur Kay and the Originals will perform at the same venue on Saturday night, with support from local band Intensified. Tickets cost £12 and can be booked by calling the box office on 01303 858500 or visiting www.quarterhouse.co.uk. For both concerts, doors open at 6.30pm.

For full festival listings and booking details, visit www.folkestoneskabourfestival.co.uk.



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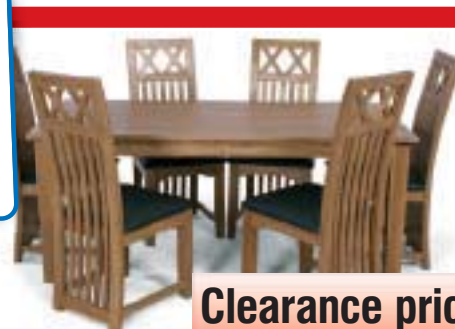
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FIVE STAR SWING

Friday, September 3,
Horsebridge Arts & Community Centre, Whitstable



GET in the mood for swing when musicians with impressive pedigrees visit Whitstable.

Five Star Swing has recently performed with Dame Vera Lynn at her charity concert in London and now they are heading for the seaside.

For one night only, the band will be playing many classic big band and swing numbers, made famous by artists like Frank Sinatra, Glenn Miller and Jools Holland.

The show features former Ivy Benson musician Simone Smith and her husband Chris, who has worked with Herb Miller,

brother of Glenn Miller. Sax player and singer Simone has played with a diverse range of artists include Paul Weller and John Williams, while Chris's compositions are often heard on Jazz FM and BBC Radio 2.

"I've been brought up with this style of music as my father played trombone for Frank Sinatra on his European tours," Mr Smith said. "It's great that there is a strong resurgence in jazz and swing music enjoyed by all generations."

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets are priced from £9. To book call 01227 281174.



RAT PACK TRIO

Saturday, September 4, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



JOIN the hottest party in town when the Rat Pack Vegas Spectacular rolls into town this weekend.

Featuring the 'purveyors of cool', the Rat Pack Trio, this glitzy and glamorous show transports audiences back to the glory days of Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. Packed with classic songs that will get toes tapping and fingers clicking, the show pays tribute to the Rat Pack in timeless style.

Interspersed with lots of the trio's famous banter, the songs include Come Fly With Me,

Volare, Lady is a Tramp, Mack the Knife and many more favourite tunes.

The show has been delighting swing fans all over the world since 2002 and taking people back to a time when entertainment was classy and smooth. During the 50s and 60s, the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas was considered to be the coolest place to be seen when the Rat Pack were in town.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost from £16 to £20. To book, call the box office on 0844 847 1776 or visit the website at www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

CAROUSEL

Saturday, September 4 &
Sunday, September 5,
Sarah Thorne Theatre Club, Broadstairs



LOVE conquers all in the classic Rogers and Hammerstein musical, Carousel.

This uplifting musical can be seen at the Sarah Thorne Theatre Club this weekend and again on September 11 and 12, as Stardust Theatre Company presents a production of the show. Directed by Joe Hodges, the show boasts a full orchestra conducted by Myles Ratcliffe.

The musical features timeless songs such as If I Loved You, June is Bustin' Out All Over and You'll Never Walk Alone.

Tickets cost £9 for Sarah Thorne members and £11 for non-members, who must book at least 24 hours in advance. Family tickets cost £32/£40. To book, call 0845 262 6263 or email info@sarahthorne-theatreclub.co.uk.



HOP FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 4 & Sunday, September 5,
Faversham town centre



THOUSANDS of people will flock to Faversham this weekend for the annual Hop Festival.

Harking back to the days when hop-pickers would mark the end of the harvest with a big party, the popular festival is packed with music, dance and other entertainment. A wide variety of bands and musicians will be performing across three stages and anyone who would like to dance can kick up their heels at the Hoppers Ceilidh, held at the Alexander Centre in Preston Street at 8pm on Saturday. Tickets cost £7 in advance, £8 on the door or £20 for families of four, and advance tickets are available from Wendy's Bargain Books in Queen's Parade.

A Year in the Life of Faversham, a photographic project which records the life of the town, will be launched at the event and train enthusiasts can also get on track for a great day out. The Spitfire steam train will follow the hop-pickers' route by making a return trip through Kent from London Bridge. To find out more, call 01795 542285 or visit www.shepherdneame.co.uk. For festival listings visit www.thehopfestival.com.



DON'T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE BUS!

Saturday, September 4,
Gulbenkian Theatre, Maidstone



CHILDREN will be looking forward to the return of the school bus once they have seen Big Wooden Horse's live show.

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! is full of feathery fun that is sure to captivate children aged three and above. For more than a year, the lively show has been entertaining young audiences in the UK and it has recently returned from a tour of the US and Canada. Bursting with fun and laughter, the show features plenty of audience participation and uses original music to help tell the story.

When the friendly bus driver leaves the audience to look after the bus while he is away, he has just one instruction for his new friends – 'Don't let the pigeon drive the bus!'. But the wily pigeon is determined to get his own way. So will the audience be able to withstand his whining, bribing, pleading and singing?

The show starts at 2pm and tickets cost £8 each or £35 for family and friends groups of five. To book, call the box office on 01227 769075 or visit the website at www.the-gulbenkian.co.uk.



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MANDY 34, lovable, curvy, bubbly, long brown hair seeks unattached, loving male for some serious fun and passion. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335539

JANE 60, beautiful slim blonde blue eyed widow, friendly, easy and eager to please searching for fun and romance with tall, slim man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335537

ROCK chic, 24, cheeky, curvy brunette, up for anything seeks hunky older guy for fun times and more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335535

ANNIE 55, very feminine, curvy with short fair hair and green eyes, loves life seeking well built male who would like to chill out and cuddle up on the sofa. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335533

FEMALE likes holidays, ballet, reading, animals, seeks N/S male, under 70. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335437

RETIRED female, new to area, likes art, music, concerts, theatre, seeks similar professional/retired male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379922

JAN 51 2ins, blonde hair, brown eyes, slim, 50's, nurse, likes pubs, nights in, wine, cooking, animals, seeks like-minded male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335065

MANDY 18, very pretty inexperienced young female, seeks seductive older male to tutor and spoil her. Discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335569

GEORGIE 45, curvy, tactile blonde, bubbly and chatty looking for broad-minded, fun loving, mature male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335563

ALI 25, petite with long brown hair and blue eyes, happy personality, knows what she wants, looking for dishy older guy to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335561

DAWN 44, small outgoing blue eyed brunette, needing some male attention seeks male, who's not too tall for a casual, uncomplicated relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334825

PAULA 39, brown hair, hazel eyes, vivacious, great personality, knows what she wants seeks adventurous man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334823

JENNY 31, gorgeous, outgoing party girl, blonde, blue eyed, great curvy WLTm hunky male for some serious fun. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334821

JUDY 56, lovely, creative artistic and out that bit different, loves sunbathing, outdoors, looking for new possibilities with quirky, dark haired male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334819

JACKIE 40's, stunning, slim, loves life and likes to look after herself, wants to live it to the full with the right male. It could be you. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334803

MARIA 48, likes country walks, trips, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379826

WHITE South African Knight desired, late 30's-40's who is kind, caring, sensitive and knows how to area 1 a woman. Must likes cinema theatre, weekends away, concerts etc. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334303

FUN loving, attractive, black female, slim, 38, 5ft 7ins, likes walks, reading, theatre, music, seeks genuine, caring, European gent to share laughter and life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815

38YR old single mum, bubbly, curvy, seeks genuine guy for romance, good life and good times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334777

BARBARA 48, slender fun loving divorcee, blonde hair, green eyes seeks slim athletic male to be her new love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334801

SUE 46, lovely green eyed blonde, knows there must be more to life than work seeks tall intelligent guy to show her how to relax and have fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334799

KAY 37, beautiful, warm, friendly blonde, no ties, would love to get together with an attractive male who can sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334797

LOVELY female, 55, 5ft 6ins, seeks male 53-59, 6ft and N/S. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334633

ANNE 42, beautiful, loving and caring, always on the go, seeks tall, well built guy who can show her what she's missing for new experiences together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334221

LINDA 52, gentle, sensitive and fun loving seeks tall attractive male with big personality for a tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334219

ALI 5ft 2ins, red hair, blue eyes, GSOH, likes simple things in life, seeks male who can make her laugh. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334077

RETIRED professional lady, 68, GSOH, varied interests, seeks N/S gent for socialising. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333993

35YR old honest, caring, understanding female, 5ft 6ins, seeks nice, hardworking gent for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334495

REBECCA 45, 5ft 9ins, educated brunette, GSOH, seeks tall, intelligent, caring male with GSOH, 43-55 for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379776

VIVACIOUS curvy brown eyed brunette, loving and affectionate would love to be pampered and spoilt by a tall, romantic male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334227

JEAN 53, stunning, young looking blonde seeks tall, trendy male to make days more fun and nights even better. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334225

DAMSEL in distress, Heather young looking 50, very attractive, been hurt in the past and seeking affectionate, younger male to rescue her. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334203

EXTROVERT slim, modern widow, loves dancing seeks tall, enthusiastic, young at heart male who shares the good things in life, fun and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334201

MANDY 46, very loving, affectionate brunette, lots of lovely curves WLTm romantic, warm hearted male for a special relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334199

RACHEL 28, single mum, fun, outgoing, adventurous, seeks black/mixed race male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334123

BEAUTIFUL vivacious female seeks kind hearted, affectionate guy to come home and share relaxing evenings together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333627

JUDY youthful slim nurse 45, no ties, can't wait to raise the temperature of a discreet, experienced, confident guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333625

KAREN 50, 5ft 2ins, medium build, young at heart, active, smoker, likes horses, no ties, seeks nice male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379510

LOVELY chic free spirited green eyed blonde, feminine, seeks professional, romantic, well spoken male with a love of life for good times, fun and travel. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333525

PAULETTE 63, shy, outgoing, long hair, green eyes, likes dogs, walks, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379482

TRACY 31, 5ft 1ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy, bubbly, GSOH, 2 children, likes animals, seeks genuine, trustworthy, honest male, 35-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379552

SANDRA 60, bubbly widow WLTm loving male who knows how to treat a lady for good conversation and relaxed fun strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333631

GEORGIE 45, cuddly bubbly blonde, seeks laid back guy to chill out, share adult conversation and relaxing no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333629

61YR old lady, medium build, widow, OHAC, likes music, countryside, gardening, seeks similar male, 60-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334455

FUN loving female, 47, kind, caring, honest, GSOH, likes meals out, pubs, cinema, cooking, seeks male, 39-49 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334417

SUZANNE 50's, tall blonde, works hard, plays harder, lots to offer the right male, seeks confident man who thinks he could handle her. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334205

SEDUCTIVE saucy blue eyed blonde seeks happy go lucky male for lots of fun and attention. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332625

ATTRACTIVE slim, blonde female, young 48, 5ft 6ins, no ties, seeks outgoing, friendly male, 45-55 for friendship, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379340

JACKIE 32, attractive professional, very smart and feminine, long brown hair, seeks smart, confident, older male who knows how to treat a lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332607

ELAINE 51, petite, curvy, shy, sensitive and nicely wicked, looking to meet a well built guy for tactile, loving relationship. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332605

32YR old black single mum, curvy, caring, honest, fun loving, likes nights in/out, seeks honest, adventurous, fun loving male, 35-45 with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379506

FEMALE 46, slim, likes cooking, seeks tall, caring male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379498

ANDREA 34, lovely, sensual with long dark hair seeks mature male to take a chance and share a romantic meal for two. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333607

FUN flirt rock chic, curvy size 12 seeks likeminded male to share special times and bring sunshine into her life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333605

JILL stunning blue eyed blonde, sporty, devoted footie fan, seeks tall, active guy who's not too shy to try something a bit different. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333603

ANNA 43, sensual blue eyed blonde, slim and vivacious, loves to wine and dine seeks tall, dark male for good conversation, fun and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333601

SMART happy female, 5ft 6ins, likes documentaries, films, meals out, wine, conversation, seeks tall, professional gent for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332725

40YR old rock fan, likes animals, country walks, gigs, seeks kind male, 40-48 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333095

LADY 60's, slim, young minded, N/S, likes gardening, meals out, country walks, holidays, theatre, seeks male, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332749

LARGER 26yr old lady, dark hair, looking for anyone to make her laugh. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332721

HEATHER 36, tall blue eyed brunette, shy, but always up for a laugh, looking to let her hair down with a tall, romantic male. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332633

HAYLEE 22, bubbly blue eyed blonde, tattoos and piercings, loves to live life to the full, seeking exciting male, up for anything, for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332631

JANINE 43, stunning slim, blue eyed blonde WLTm tall male to get to know, share romantic candlelight dinners, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332627

KAREN 39, statuesque brunette, seeks very tall, well built male for uncomplicated relationship with a real woman. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332603

ELIZABETH 58, attractive, sensitive, caring, young outlook, seeks similar tactile guy to share good times, fun and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332601

BLACK female, N/S, 44, 5ft 5ins, likes cinema, cooking, seeks N/S white, kind, honest, loving male, 48-56 with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332979

SASKIA 43, stylish, very attractive with long blonde hair seeks attractive tall trendy guy for fun friendship with lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 331395

MARY 50, petite with green eyes and dark hair, lovely curves seeks bubbly outgoing male who is full of surprises to make and keep life and love interesting. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330887

BEAUTIFUL long haired brunette, loves life, very friendly seeks lovely romantic, younger male with plenty of imagination for lots of kisses, cuddles and possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330885

PAULA 40, vibrant, down to earth, loves the sun, will try anything once seeks similar sensual male for some fresh air build. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 331405

KELLY 26, beautiful shapely brunette, likes wild nights out but prefers chillin with a nice bottle wine, good conversation and intimate moments, seeks similar. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330863

WINNIE small, sweet and full of love for life, seeks lively mature male to share TLC, romance, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330859

JENNY 23, shapely, understanding brunette, loves nights out and quiet times in, seeks tall older male who is not too serious for fun times together with out complications. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330857

ANNE 46, slim, N/S, honest, reliable, seeks male, 42-50, N/S, slim-medium build. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330029

CAROLE 55, young looking blonde, voluptuous, but not too much to handle! WLTm manly male who is up for some no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 330883

MEN
seeking women

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DAVID 55, 5ft 4ins, slim, wheelchair guy, likes nights in/out, football, wheelchair sports, nights out, seeks Tall female, 40-65 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335459

ROMANTIC country man, young 50's, tactile, artistic, GSOH, likes meals out, films, classic cars, antiques, seeks attractive lady companion. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379906

GENUINE male, 45, no ties, GSOH, sexy, honest, smoker, seeks nice female, any age/nationality/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335099

46YR old male, 6ft, always a male naver a partner, GSOH, down to earth, animal lover, likes a laugh, pubs, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379940

MARK 46, single dad, seeks female with no ties for fun times, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379938

JOHN young looking male, middle aged, N/S, self employed gardener, seeks female, 30-50 for friendship and romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 335495

CARING fit guy 48, brown hair, blue eyes, 5ft 9ins, seeks pretty, well spoken Sussex lady, 42 or younger for loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379816

STEVE mature guy 52, green eyes, GSOH, like music, nights in/out, seeks female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334981

ARE you 58 plus, not over the hill, me 55 will put the sparkle back in your life. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334967

DEN 60, frustrated, seeks lady, any age for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334879

YOUNG 52yr old male, attractive, well dressed, kind, romantic, easygoing, seeks slim, attractive female, 46-56 for a new beginning. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334771

EASYGOING male, 54, 5ft 11ins, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, N/S, GSOH, reliable, seeks likeminded female for relationship and TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334167

SLIM good looking male, seeks discreet sexy fun with female. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334765

FUN loving Christian male, 70's, 5ft 11ins, honest, caring, likes walks, swimming, music, conversation, dark chocolate, WLTm kind lady to share interests. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379682

MARK 5ft 9ins, 48, blue eyes, likes nights out, gym, pubs, clubs, seeks female, 42-50 for friendship, fun and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334611

5FT 10ins, male, 58, widow, likes cooking, travel, dogs, seeks female, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379850

TALL slim, dark haired, attractive male, young 54, seeks attractive, slim female for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334557

JASON fun loving, late 20's, likes outdoors, meals out, pubs, clubs, dad of one, seeks female for friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379878

ATTRACTIVE tall male, former lover of the year 2004, seeks friendly, feisty female for daytime fun to delight the fies. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333988

DAVID 5ft 11ins, fair hair, blue eyes, clean shaven, smart, likes travel, music, seeks female companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379708

JOE 66, likes gardening, travel, cooking, nights out, seeks female for fun, friendship, cuddles and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334481

MEL 6ft, loyal, faithful, trustworthy, honest, likes swimming, walks, sports, pubs, good food, animal lover, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334421

ADRIAN 70 plus, seeks companion of similar age who likes animals, meals out and socialising. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379792

ROBERT 68, professor of Archaeology retired, MS sufferer, seeks female, 55-65 for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379732

MALE 52, seeks N/S, young at heart female for theatre, cinema and meals out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379722

TALL uncomplicated Christian male, mid 50's, refuses to take himself too seriously, GSOH, seeks friendship with female, 45 or under. Croydon. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334395

YOUNG 64yr old male, seeks female of similar age or younger, slim, petite, N/S, social drinker for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334273

PETER 61, likes walks, meals out, music, cooking, seeks discreet female for no strings mutual fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379698

WIDOWER late 60's, tall, grey hair, N/S, likes sport, music, theatre, walks, seeks attractive N/S female, 60-66 for LTR. Eastbourne. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332687

TALL male, professional, seeks likewise female, 20-40. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334261

WHITE male, 61, N/S, own home, GSOH, seeks romantic, understanding, black/Asian female, 40-60 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334099

MEDITERRANEAN male, 5ft 2ins, likes sports, music, seeks female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333925

MALE 45, medium build, tall, blue eyes, brown hair, GSOH, romantic, honest, likes pubs, music, nights in, seeks slim-medium build female, 28-45. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379780

65YR old male, lonely, likes nights out, most things, N/S, seeks lady of similar age for TLC and fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334401

NICE looking mature, fit, funny, honest guy, 58, likes sun, walks, music, nights out, seeks slim, lively, attractive female for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334183

MALE 44, brown hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks attractive, slim, honest female, 32-38 with no ties for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334159

PROFESSIONAL male, 55, slim, 5ft 11ins, divorced, N/S, likes travel, sports, walks, seeks slim, fit, N/S, genuine female, 48-59. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334095

NICE guy 35, 5ft 5ins, short dark hair, hazel eyes, slim, seeks nice female with GSOH for friendship, possible LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379492

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Reader Holidays

UNIQUE FREE BAR WARNER PARTY BREAKS

Isle of Wight Christmas Party at Warner Norton Grange 3 Nights from only £199pp

Friday 5 to 8 Nov 2010 Tour NG11-2

Norton Grange, the friendly Warner Resort on the seafront at Yarmouth, on the Isle of Wight, is ideal for our fun-filled Christmas Party - for over 40s only - featuring cabaret and variety entertainment, good food, great entertainment and a Free Bar every day - perfect for a pre-Christmas get together.

Price includes:

- **FREE Bar** from 15.30hrs to 23:00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of variety entertainment and activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded en-suite chalet - upgrades available - Standard Plus £219pp - Premier £229pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna, jacuzzi
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry - min 2 per car



Free Car Ferry | Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Mamma Mia Christmas Party at Warner Bembridge Coast 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 12 to 15 Nov 2010
Tour MM11 Last Few Places!

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Variety Entertainment & Activities programme including Abba Tribute Band & Mamma Mia movie screening
- Fireworks display
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an en-suite Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room - £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people per car



Come Dancing Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £259pp

Friday 14 to 17 Jan 2011 Tour MB1

Our Bembridge Dance breaks were a sell-out in 2009 and 2010 so we're doing it all again in 2011. There will be Ballroom and Latin dancing, tuition for beginners and improvers, top dancers in cabaret and a Grand Ball & variety entertainment. And with an 8,860sq ft dance floor, you won't be short of space. There's plenty going on for non-dancers, and, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment & dancing
- 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Sea-view Room £274pp
- Signature Room - £304pp
- Royale Room - £319pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool, sauna,
- **Travel:** Self drive including car ferry - min 2 people per car

In association with



Ballroom & Latin Dance Specialists

Free Car Ferry | Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Carry on New Year Party at Warner Sinah Warren 3 Nights from only £229pp

Friday 7 to 10 Jan 2011 Tour WS

Here's an opportunity - for over 40s only - to extend the New Year celebrations at Sinah Warren, Warner's luxury hotel on Hayling Island. There'll be live entertainment every evening and, to help the party go with a swing, there's Free Drinks too.

Price includes:

- **FREE drinks** from 15.30hrs to 23:00hrs on Friday and 12.00hrs to 23.00hrs on Saturday & Sunday. Drinks include tea/coffee, pumped

soft drinks & mixers, house wine by the glass, house beers & spirits.

- Full programme of entertainment & activities
- **Meals:** 3 dinners and 3 breakfasts
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights sharing a twin or double bedded Ambassador room - upgrades available - Sea-view Room £244pp Signature Room £274pp - Royal Room £289pp
- **Leisure facilities:** Indoor pool & sauna pool
- **Travel:** Self drive



Over 40s Only | Free Bar

Michael Jackson Party at Warner Bembridge 3 Nights from only £239pp

Friday 25 to 28 Feb 2011 Tour MB2

Join us for a Fabulous Michael Jackson Party on the Isle of Wight Warner's Bembridge Coast Hotel will resound to the sights and sounds of the King of Pop as our fabulous party weekend includes nightly entertainment, a screening of the movie This Is It and a Michael Jackson tribute act featuring the songs of the Jackson Five as well as Michael's biggest hits. There's also a Free Bar.

Price includes:

- **FREE Drinks**
- Nightly entertainment
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights sharing an Ambassador room - upgrades available
- Seaview Room £254pp
- Signature Room - £284pp
- Royale Room - £299pp
- **Travel:** Self drive with car ferry included - min 2 people



Bembridge Coast Hotel

A super, modern hotel set on a glorious part of the east coast of the Isle of Wight with great sea views of the Solent. There's plenty to do during the day as well as live entertainment every night. Have a cooked breakfast each morning, or choose from a range of lighter options. For dinner, help yourself to a full carvery or opt for an à la carte 3-course menu served to your table. Accommodation is in light and airy Ambassador rooms, which have an ensuite bathroom, TV with radio, complimentary toiletries, lounge chairs, tea and coffee making facilities, telephone and hairdryer - upgrades available.

- Our Party Breaks include a free bar from 3.30pm to 11pm Friday and 12 noon to 11pm Saturday & Sunday for house beers & spirits, house wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers, tea & coffee. (*Mamma Mia Free Bar 6 to 11pm daily)



Call **01895 83 33 33** For more information quoting the tour code

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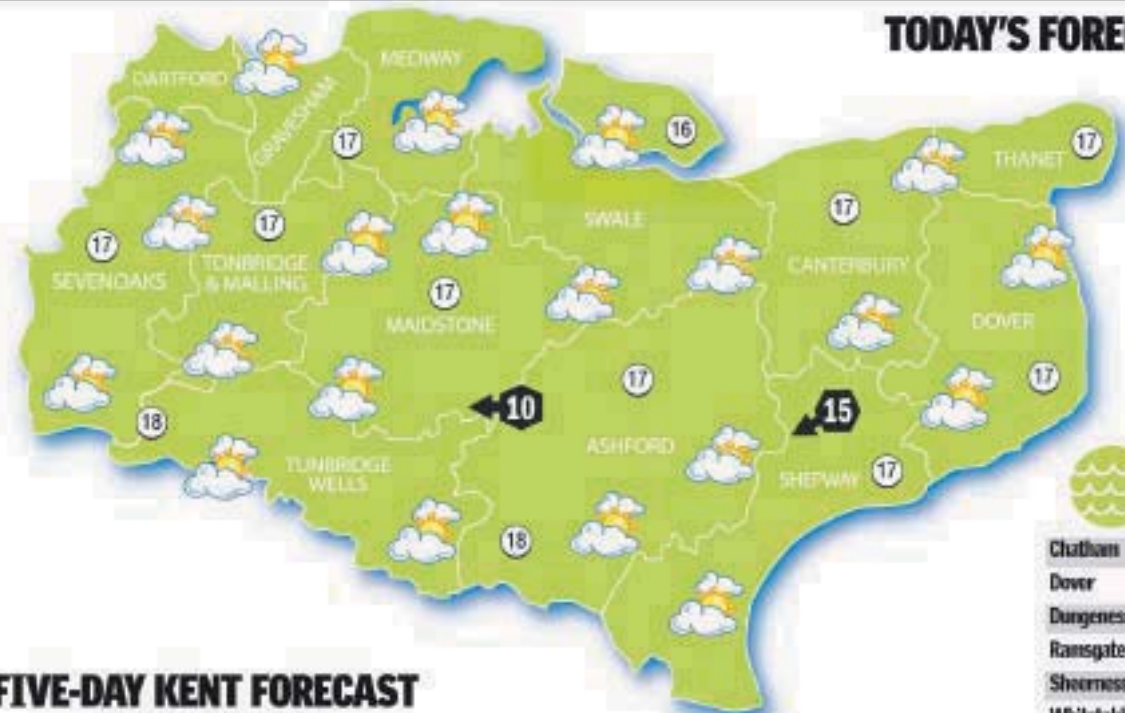


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TODAY'S FORECAST



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	17°C	Madrid	30°C
Athens	31°C	New York	31°C
Barcelona	25°C	Paris	17°C
Beijing	30°C	Rome	26°C
Bombay	26°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	18°C	Tenerife	36°C
Cardiff	16°C	Tokyo	34°C
Gibraltar	25°C	Vancouver	17°C
Hong Kong	32°C	Warsaw	18°C
Las Palmas	32°C	Wellington	11°C

KENT'S WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	9:00am 4.8m	Sunday	10:27am 5.1m
Dover	Saturday	7:42am 5.3m	Sunday	9:06am 5.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	7:32am 6.0m	Sunday	8:55am 6.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	8:12am 4.0m	Sunday	9:36am 4.3m
Sheerness	Saturday	8:48am 4.7m	Sunday	10:15am 5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	8:55am 4.5m	Sunday	10:22am 4.7m

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	18°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	Dover	17°C	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	Gravesend	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Canterbury	17°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C	Faversham	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Maidstone	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C
Chatham	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Folkestone	17°C	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	Ramsgate	17°C	18°C	18°C	19°C	19°C
Dartford	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	Gillingham	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Rochester	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
												Sevenoaks	18°C	18°C	17°C	18°C	19°C
												Sittingbourne	17°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C
												Tonbridge	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C
												Tun Wells	19°C	19°C	19°C	19°C	20°C

SUNRISE	6:07am	SUNSET	7:42pm
MOONRISE	10:29pm	MOONSET	2:51pm

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WIN! A Le Creuset cookware set

ONE lucky reader of this newspaper will win a set of Le Creuset Cookware worth £300, courtesy of the Ashford Designer Outlet store.

The fantastic prize includes a 30cm shallow casserole dish, 26cm grillit, handle glove, basting brush, a pitcher, set of two ramekins, oil and vinegar set, salt and pepper set and two cooler sleeves.

The winner will have the choice of their preferred colour from Le Creuset's signature shades of Volcanic (pictured), Cerise, Graded Blue, Teal, Granite and Almond.

Customers can also receive 10 per cent off at the outlet's Le Creuset store – simply take the



voucher on this page to the store before the September 30 to claim your discount*.
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McArthurGlen's Ashford Designer Outlet is open seven days a week. For more details visit www.ashforddesigneroutlet.com, call 01233

895900 or follow the outlet on twitter @ashford_outlet

For your chance to win the cookware set, simply tell us.

Question: Volcanic is a shade of which colour?

A) Blue B) Orange C) Red.

To enter, simply answer the question above and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Le Creuset Cookware Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. The closing date Friday, September 10, 2010.

No purchase necessary. For full terms and conditions please visit www.kentnews.co.uk, or call 01303 817073.

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* Saving off typical retail price. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offer valid until September 30, 2010.

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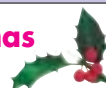
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Michael Cera Vs. the same geeky youngster role in a feel good film

ONE man's quest for love could result in a little more than a broken heart in Edgar Wright's video game-styled comedy based on the graphic novels by Bryan Lee O'Malley.

A blitzkrieg on the senses from the opening frames, *Scott Pilgrim Vs. The World* will appeal to young, techno-savvy audiences who live through their joypads and remotes.

Sound effects produce elongated on screen captions like BEEEEEEEEPP and when the characters fight, their blows land with a mighty THUD or KAPOW.

Editing is frenetic, though thankfully the action sequences don't reduce to an incomprehensible blur, complimented by a loud, rocking soundtrack.

Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera) is the 22-year-old bass guitarist with the band Sex Bob-omb, which also includes guitarist Stephen Stills (Mark Webber), drummer Kim Pine (Alison Pill) and lifelong fan Young Neil (Johnny Simmons), who knows all of the band's songs and riffs by heart.

The eponymous strummer doesn't enjoy a roaring success with girls and to stave off the loneliness, he begins dating 17-year-old Chinese Catholic schoolgirl Knives Chau (Ellen Wong). Gay roommate Wallace Wells (Kieran Culkin) is horrified and immediately sends a text to Scott's sister Stacey (Anna Kendrick), who tries and fails to reason with her little brother.

Then Scott meets the girl of his dreams, Ramona Flowers (Mary Elizabeth Winstead), and is instantly smitten.

They share a night together and everything seems perfect, apart from the small matter that Scott has neglected to tell Knives he is going to dump her.

During Sex Bob-omb's first round performance at the Toronto International Battle of the Bands, Ramona's ex-boyfriend Matthew Patel (Satya Bhabha) challenges Scott to a duel to the death.



YOUNG LOVE: Michael Cera and Mary Elizabeth Winstead star in the latest teen romp that sees Cera playing exactly the same character he always does once again

"If we're going to date, you might have to defeat my seven evil exes," Ramona reveals.

So the plucky musician must face Lucas Lee, Todd Ingram, Roxy Richter, the Katayanagi Twin and record label supremo Gideon Graves.

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World is an entertaining romp with a snappy script littered with choice one-liners ("If your life had a face, I'd punch it!")

The stylised digital effects are very cute at

first like the little meter that appears on screen when Scott visits the toilet, and gradually empties as he relieves himself.

However, the bombardment lasts for almost two hours and by the end of the film we feel almost as exhausted as the characters.

Cera plays the same role, yet again, albeit with a bass guitar in his hand, and Winstead does her best not to crack a smile as the girl with a knack for dating bad guys.

Just like the end of a video game, when the

player gets a Continue? option to insert more coins, Wright's film concludes with a countdown to more potential adventures with Scott and the gang.

These two hours are sufficient.

SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD 
Certificate 12A



ALMOST OVER: Josie was the final winner of the regular Big Brother shows



YOUR TV REVIEW

BIG BROTHER: Channel 4, 9pm

BIG Brother is finally over. Forever.

But in the pantomime world of reality television there is room for one last feeble cry of "Oh no it isn't!"

Big Brother is back, again, in a last hurrah for a genre that has become firmly embedded in the spirit of the early 21st century. Just when we were watching the final, prepared for this to be the last time we voyeuristically gawped at people we didn't know and didn't particularly like, Channel 4 decided we hadn't quite had enough.

This time addicts will only have to endure three weeks of what has been billed as Ultimate Big Brother. Housemates with celebrity status either of their own or dubiously daubed on them by the programme itself will battle it out in a televisual

BY JENNY ARMSTRONG

goldfish bowl to be crowned the best contestant ever.

Despite being the epicentre of reality television, Ultimate Big Brother has a hint of unreality about it. People whose real lives have been massively affected by the show are back in one of the strangest situations imaginable.

The producers have sent in Chantelle and Preston with their typical amorality. For the uninitiated, the pair met on Big Brother, fell in love, got married and then divorced less than a year later.

Amongst the usual mix of neuroses Channel 4 has thrown everyone from the seemingly normal Ulrika Jonsson and 'Nasty' Nick Bateman, who can't be that bad really, to the likes of

Nikki "Who is she?" Grahame and multi-platinum rapper Coolio.

But despite this, at the end of an era, it all seems a bit different. Everyone seems stunned, as if the spell has finally broken and they have realised they are a strange bunch of people in a bizarrely decorated house where they have to do what they are told because they have a camera pointed at their heads.

So what have we learned from what started out as an Orwellian social experiment into human nature? That people will forfeit their dignity if promised fame and fortune. That, in an oppressive situation, people will conform. That people will watch anything.

And perhaps we have learned that, after three weeks of grace, reality TV will soon be dead. Hopefully we have learned it is time to move on.

Discover...

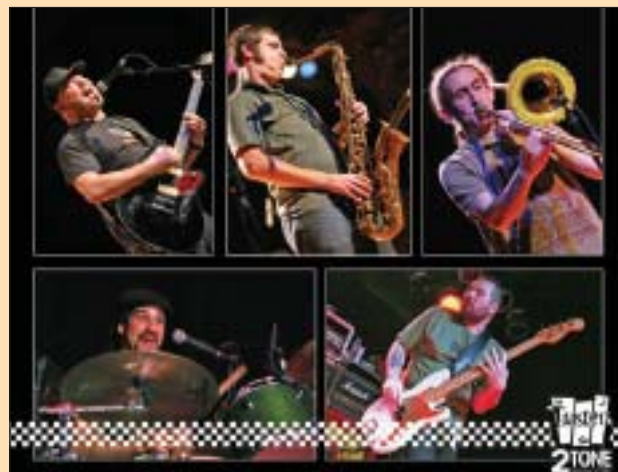
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yourmusic

Talent at The Forum



LEGENDARY: Three decades of great music arrive at The Forum this week

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

SKA legends The Toasters will pop up at The Forum this Friday as part of the band's 200-date 2010 world tour.

The celebrated New York seven-piece – led by frontman Robert 'Bucket' Hingley – are thought to be the longest serving US ska outfit, having burst onto the scene in 1981 and stayed there ever since.

During their 29-year recording/touring career the band has released nine studio albums and played to sell-out crowds across the globe.

Despite enduring numerous line-up changes over the years, the band's raw, live energy remains the same.

Support on the night comes from Tyrannosaurus Alan, Broken Union and Run Leia Run.

Tickets cost £10 in advance and £12 on the night.

Forum bosses have lined up a whole host of talent to play at the Tunbridge Wells venue throughout the month, starting tonight (Wednesday) with Paint in Black, Blacklisted, Broken Teeth, Light-bringer and more.

Tomorrow sees Philadelphia Grand Jury, Sister Mantos, Goodluck Jonathan and Flexability perform.

Entry costs just £6 and is worth that alone to see Los Angeles-based electro prodigy Sister Mantos, aka Oscar Santos, take to the stage.

Sister Mantos wowed Kent crowds during an impromptu five-minute performance at the Lounge on the Farm two years ago with his wondrously unique one-man show.

Definitely worth a view.

Saturday sees The Ruskins, In Mono, Romanian Stray Dogs and Marathan play with Doors Alive, a The Doors tribute act, playing the following night.

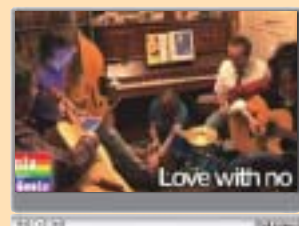
New Device and MG and the Juggernauts will make Forum appearances on Monday, Sept-

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MUSIC FESTIVAL: A montage from this year's Lounge on the Farm



BAND PRACTICE: Zinta Egle and her band play Love With No Love



TOP FIVE KENT GIGS

- 1 Craig Sheridan – Times Change (from Deal)
- 2 Shelta – We Can Make It (from Bexley)
- 3 Ron Bowdery – The Return of Alfred E (from New Eltham)
- 4 Cristlefridge – Unbreakable (from Whitstable)
- 5 Stereohype – Invaders Must Die (from Deal)

ember 13, followed that week by Citay and The Naming of Things on Thursday, 16, and Off With Their Heads, Dissociates and Melchett, on Friday, 17.

Dogs, The Onlookers and The Deccas are next up on Saturday, September 25, with A Loss For Words, Not Advised, LYU and Loose Cannons rounding the month off on Thursday, September 30.

For more information on The Forum visit www.twforum.co.uk.



BREATHTAKING: The iceberg lagoon, Jokulsarlon, is an incredible – and wholly unspoilt – natural phenomena worth seeing

yourgetaways

The land of fire and ice, and breathtaking unspoilt beauty

■ BY DANIELLE DWYER

“ORDER the puffin”, the waiter suggested politely as I dithered over the extensive menu on my first evening in Iceland.

I didn't have the guts – quite literally – so I stuck with the salmon, but I was the only one eating it in our group. The others indeed opted for smoked puffin – and gave it rave reviews. As for my fish, caught the very same day from a river running past the restaurant, it was perfect.

The adventurous menu marked the beginning of what was to be an action-packed four-day trip.

We took in spectacular glaciers, a bubbling volcano, tumbling waterfalls and rolling fields. The landscape is striking, albeit curious and bleak in places.

It is impossible to forget that Iceland – nicknamed the land of fire and ice – is a country of extremes.

Volcano enthusiasts can drive to Eyjafjallajökull from Reykjavik along Route 1 – a journey of roughly 70 miles. It is also possible to fly over the volcano as we did, an experience well worth an afternoon if weather conditions permit.

But there is so much more to Iceland than lava and ash.

Iceland, situated just south of the Arctic Circle, is home to a population of 300,000. Roughly half that number live in the capital, Reykjavik, and its neighbouring towns in the southwest.

Corrugated iron-clad buildings, many painted in pastel hues, lend a picture-postcard backdrop to Reykjavik – where Icelanders regularly party right through the night.

FACT FILE: ICELAND

Time difference	- One hour (GMT)
Capital	Reykjavik
Language	Icelandic
Population	318,000
Currency	Icelandic krona
Religion	Evangelical Lutheran Church

Danielle Dwyer was a guest of Discover The World, which offers six-night self-drive holidays in Iceland year-round from £808 per person. The Arctic Edge package includes Icelandair flights ex-Heathrow, B&B hotel accommodation, including the luxury Hotel Rangá and car rental. Reservations: 01737 218 800 and www.discover-the-world.co.uk.



By day, the city's atmosphere is casual and relaxed, with a dress code to match. By night, the stilettoes come out and the bar crawls commence, lasting into and beyond the early hours. But Reykjavik has more to offer than its vibrant nightlife.

In the daytime it is pretty and peaceful, with just enough bustle to create an atmosphere.

The capital is small enough to explore by foot, and wherever you are in the city, you are never far from a decent coffee and a spot to sit down and people-watch.

Reykjavik is also an ideal base from which to explore the rest of the country. About four buses leave the city each day for the Blue Lagoon, where you can share the locals' fondness for outdoor bathing by plunging into mineral-enriched waters at a breathtaking 38C.

The Jokulsarlon iceberg lagoon, on the south side of Vatnajökull, is a must-see.

The lagoon is a sprawling lake of glacial meltwater into which huge icebergs have floated, having broken away from the glacier.

The fact that such an inevitably popular spot has been left exactly as nature intended is striking.

Except for the unobtrusive boat that chugs through the lagoon, there is nothing. No fast food chain to cash in on the scores of tourists flocking through the area, no souvenir store, no ticket booth.

And the same can be said about hundreds of Iceland's natural wonders.

Our guide tells us that Icelanders want to keep it that way – unspoilt – and it is certainly worth a visit while they do.

MOTORS NEWS



Lexus gives IS facelift to take on rivals BMW

UNDERRATED in a sector dominated by BMW's 3-Series, the Lexus IS has had a major facelift.

Significantly, Toyota's luxury brand now also has more ammunition against BMW's big-selling 320d diesel version in the company car sector – the old IS220d makes way for the IS200d, offering cost/tax savings through better economy and emissions. Exterior styling has also been honed with new lights and a revised front grille, giving the car a sleeker look, with prices unchanged (from £24,350).



A1 option allowing you to downsize with style

AUDI'S eagerly awaited baby, the A1, now has a firm UK arrival date – November.

Prices will range from £13,145-18,280 and advance interest globally in this premium option to downsize, means Audi is already talking about upward revision of production targets.

Three high efficiency yet eco-friendly engines will be offered, featuring direct injection, turbocharging and start-stop plus BMW-style energy recovery braking.

Two units will be petrol – the 1.2 TFSI, the 1.4 TFSI – plus be a 1.6 TDI diesel.



One final turn for rotary star as production ends

MAZDA has chosen to end UK sales of the innovative RX-8 rotary-engine sports car.

Less than 100 highly-specified R3 versions of the revolutionary four-seat/four-door coupé are left in UK stock.

The car was amazingly practical while the light and low slung rotary engine also made it a well-balanced and a popular drive, though some would-be buyers were wary of the engine technology.

Kent-based Mazda UK has priced the car at £25,540 for the run out, with tempting finance packages.



STILL 'BEARING' THE BRUNT: Fiat's much-maligned Panda is still the marvel it was seven years after its launch when it was awarded European Car of the Year status

Fiat shows its support for Panda conservation

ROAD TEST FIAT PANDA

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

Of course, it looks spartan inside and I would want the split folding rear seats that come with dearer versions – to complement the van-like cargo options – but it still has electric front windows, CD sound system and two-speed power steering that allows easy parking.

Lightly-laden, the Panda can be firm and fidgety, but it a fun drive and an average of nearly 60mpg, group one insurance and trifling road tax – zero in year one – gives more to grin about.

And there's the car's triumph of ergonomics – a high-mounted gearshift beneath where the hand falls naturally off the steering wheel.

But the five-door Panda is compact, so rear legroom is not great and the boot is small when the seats are in place, but this city car is still a marvel seven years after launch, when it was European Car of the Year.

As our man on Kefalonia confirmed, it has a reputation for reliability too, helping to restore faith in Fiat after some dark days on the quality front.

There is talk the current car will be replaced next year, but don't be surprised if it's no more than a thorough facelift.

Remember... don't fix it, if it ain't broke.



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BY STEVE LOADER @
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Finance Example* 07 07 Ford Focus 1.6 LX 5dr £40 Credit Facility Fee is included. **A £299 Completion Fee is included in the Final Payment.

Cash Price	£7,000	Deposit	£2,400	Final* payment	£2,577.67	Total amount payable	£8,588.51	Total charge for credit	£1,249.51	Mileage per annum	6,000	Excess mileage charge per mile	14.9p	15.18% APR	35 monthly payments	£99.19
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35 monthly payments £137
Final payment (inc. option to purchase fee of £145) £2,789
On the road price £6,995
Amount to finance £6,858
Total amount payable £7,866
5.9 % APR TYPICAL

Hyundai i20 Classic 1.2 3dr

Customer deposit £150
36 monthly payments £150
Final payment (inc. option to purchase fee of £145) £3,474
On the road price £7,995
Amount to finance £7,845
Total amount payable £9,024
5.9 % APR TYPICAL

Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.4

Customer deposit £1,300
36 monthly payments £179
Final payment (inc. option to purchase fee of £145) £4,911
On the road price £11,295
Amount to finance £9,995
Total amount payable £12,655
5.9 % APR TYPICAL

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Official Government Test Environmental Data – Fuel Consumption Figures mpg (litres/100km): Corsa Limited Edition Range: urban 40.9 (6.9) – 52.3 (5.4), extra-urban 64.2 (4.4) – 76.3 (3.7), combined 53.3 (5.3) – 65.7 (4.3), CO₂ Emissions 124 – 114 g/km.

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AGILA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	09	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Atlantis blue	9,350	8,995
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Lemon grass	1,350	9,495
2009	59	Agila Club CDTi	1.3D	5	Steel silver	3,900	8,995
2009	59	Agila Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Moroccan blue	5,150	9,295

ANTARA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2007	07	Antara CDTi Auto	2.0	5	Metro blue	20,000	11,995
2008	57	Antara CDTi E Auto	2.0	5	Slate blue	18,100	12,995
2009	59	Antara Exclusive CDTi	2.0D	5	Placid grey	2,020	17,995

ASTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	06	Astra Active	1.6	5	Ultra blue	37,000	6,495
2007	07	Astra Energy CDTi	1.3D	5	Ultra blue	15,485	7,495
2007	07	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Flame red	42,700	6,995
2007	57	Astra Sxi Sports hatch CDTi	1.7D	3	Star silver	40,675	8,495
2008	08	Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Silver lightening	24,300	8,995
2008	58	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Silver lightening	10,700	8,495
2009	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Panacotta	12,625	9,495
2009	09	Astra Sri CDTi X Pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,710	13,995
2009	09	Astra Breeze Plus CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	14,100	9,995
2009	59	Astra Sxi eco flex	1.7D	5	Sovereign silver	3,400	12,495
2009	59	Astra Sports Twin top	1.8	2	Air blue	3,320	15,995
2009	59	Astra Sxi CDTi	1.9D	5	Power red	8,000	12,995
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	4,960	9,995
2009	59	New Astra Exclusiv CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	6,450	13,995
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Power red	3,990	9,995
2009	59	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Green spirit	6,250	9,995
2009	59	New Astra Sri	1.6	5	Power red	5,340	14,495
2009	59	Astra Active	1.4	5	Black sapphire	3,890	9,995
2009	59	Astra Design Auto	1.8	5	Technical grey	7,050	11,995
2009	59	Astra Active Sports hatch	1.4	3	Sovereign silver	8,040	10,495
2009	59	Astra Life MTA	1.6	5	Sovereign silver	10,270	9,995

CORSA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Flame red	38,450	6,995
2007	07	Corsa Club	1.2	5	Flame red	27,810	6,495
2007	07	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	37,900	7,995
2007	57	Corsa Design	1.2	3	Flame red	49,370	6,995
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Black sapphire	11,440	7,995
2008	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3	3	Star silver	24,590	8,250
2009	09	Corsa Active	1.0	5	Star silver	6,270	8,475
2009	09	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Metro blue	19,970	7,995
2009	59	Corsa Life CDTi	1.3D	5	Star silver	9,950	8,995
2009	59	Corsa Active CDTi	1.3D	5	Silver lightening	4,300	9,995
2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	3	Silver lightening	800	10,495

2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	4,450	9,995
2009	59	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Black sapphire	6,350	9,395
2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.4	5	Silver lightening	5,980	9,995
2009	59	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Metro blue	5,990	9,495
2009	59	Corsa Active	1.2	3	Star silver	7,180	9,395
2010	10	Corsa Energy	1.2	3	Black sapphire	2,340	10,995

INSIGNIA & SIGNUM

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	09	Insighia Tourer Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	9,300	13,995
2009	59	Insighia Elite CDTi Nav	2.0	5	Sovereign silver	6,550	21,995
2009	59	Insighia CDTi ECO Exclusive	2.0	5	Silver lake	7,350	16,995

MERIVA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	06	Meriva Active E/T	1.6	5	Metro blue	33,225	5,995

VECTRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2006	56	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Metro blue	33,180	6,695
2007	57	Vectra Sri CDTi	1.9D	5	Black sapphire	58,650	7,495
2007	07	Vectra Design Auto CDTi	1.9	5	Star silver	15,117	8,995
2008	58	Vectra Exclusive	1.8	5	Black sapphire	15,390	8,495

ZAFIRA

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	59	Zafira Active Plus	1.8	5	Ultra blue	5,670	13,495

DUE SOON

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2002	02*	Corsa SE	1.0	3	Flamer red	48,000	2,995
2007	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	9,290	6,995
2008	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	5	Silver lightening	15,000	7,495
2008	08*	Corsa Breeze Plus	1.8	3	Silver lightening	60,000	6,995
2007	07	Astra Design	1.3	5	Silver lightening	45,000	6,995
2007	57	Astra Sri Exp pack	1.8	3	Black	50,000	7,995
2007	57	Astra Design Estate	1.8	5	Pannacotta	4,000	6,995
2008	58	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Black sapphire	11,000	9,495
2010	59	Astra VXR	2.0	3	Arden blue	17,995	17,995
2005	05*	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Star silver	42,000	4,995
2001	51*	Vectra Sxi	1.8	4	Black	71,000	2,495
2006	56	Zafira Active	1.6	5	Metro blue	48,000	6,995
2008	08	Zafira Breeze +	1.9	5	Star silver	23,000	9,995

COMMERCIALS

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	Del	11,295+VAT
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	17,900	10,695+VAT
2009	59	Vivaro SWB CDTi	2.0D	5	White	15,925	10,995+VAT
2009	59	Vivaro Double cab LWB Sportive	2.0	5	Star silver	5,500	15,995+VAT

*Non Network A



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RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme
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2004 54 Reg RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3
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RENAULT Clio 1.6 VVT Dynamique
£5,995



RENAULT Clio 2.0 16V Renaultsport 197 Cup
£12,995



2005 05 Reg RENAULT Grand Scenic 1.6 VVT Dynamique
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RENAULT Megane 1.4 Dynamique
£5,995



RENAULT Modus 1.2 Oasis
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RENAULT Megane 1.5 dCi 106 Dynamique
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2002 51 Reg RENAULT Scenic 1.9 Dci Dynamique
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2008 08 Reg RENAULT Twingo 1.2 16V Dynamique
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06 FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 1600 MILES.....	£6,995
YES REALLY UNDER 2000 MILES FROM NEW.....	£6,995
07 FORD FIESTA STYLE CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 MILES.....	£5,995

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09 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 MILES.....	£10,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 MILES.....	£9,995
08 FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 MILES.....	£8,995
08 FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 18000 MILES.....	£7,995
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 MILES.....	£7,495
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 14000 MILES.....	£7,495
05 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 MILES.....	£6,495

FOCUS ESTATES

09 FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZETEC 145 MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 MILES.....	£11,995
07 FORD FOCUS ZETEC CLIMATE 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 MILES.....	£7,995
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06 FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V ESTATE AUTO, TONIC BLUE, 18000 MILES.....	£6,995
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07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 MILES.....	£8,995
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07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 MILES.....	£8,495
07 RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 MILES.....	£7,995
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06 RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 MILES.....	£7,995
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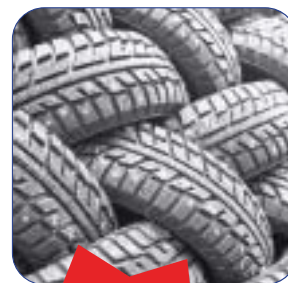
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PROPERTY NEWS



EVOLVING: Planning rules change for our villages

Villages given chance to grow under new ruling

NEW planning rules could change the way Kent's villages grow and see them evolve in a different way, according to property consultants Smiths Gore.

The Community Right to Build proposals, which were outlined earlier this summer by the coalition Government, aim to give communities the power to develop new homes with greater autonomy, allowing them to proceed without a specific planning application.

This would still oblige them to meet minimum criteria for development to local authorities, which may include strong local support, meeting environmental targets and making sure it does not expand the size of the community too rapidly.

Steve Briggs, planner and partner at Smiths Gore, said the proposals should make things easier and may return Britons to the policy of bygone years, when villages evolved more or less naturally.

"One would like to think that, in the long term, the positives will see local people staying within their local communities rather than being forced to look for homes in urban areas on account of economics," he added.

Lure of being beside the sea is on the increase

THE UK is seeing increased demand for coastal housing, according to Waterside Properties.

Peter Halliday, managing director of Waterside Properties, said the south of England has some "excellent options" for househunters who long to be by the sea.

"Most of the people that buy are buying for a lifestyle move; they are selling up their family home and moving down to the coast," he said. "That is still happening in reasonable numbers."

Mr Halliday went on to say that while properties by the coast tend to attract higher prices, they are still subject to the same forces of supply and demand and have neither risen nor fallen substantially in value in the past two years.



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WARMING TO THE IDEA: Having an energy-efficient home does not necessarily mean having to spend a lot of money and can be a massive benefit when the time comes to sell

Benefits of an eco-friendly property are hitting home

■ BY NICK AMES

HOMEOWNERS are becoming more environmentally aware and this is being reflected in the purchases they are making, according to a leading manufacturer of kitchen products.

Also new research has found that to ensure a house is as energy efficient as possible does not mean spending large amounts of cash.

And experts say the long-term benefits can be huge in the shape of lower-energy bills as more heat is retained inside the home.

Alison Coleman, marketing manager for Magnet, was speaking after the company launched its range of ECO worktops, which are made from recycled and eco-friendly materials.

The worktops are composed of "recycled consumer waste such as mirror, porcelain sinks,

baths and tiles, and from industrial waste such as ash from power plants and stone scrap from quarries and workshops," she said.

Santander Mortgages reported that first-time buyers spend an average of £3,782 on kitting out their new homes.

Some 43 per cent of first-time buyers spend their first £1,000 on sofas and armchairs, followed by beds and kitchen appliances.

However, around half a million choose pleasure over practicality, putting a large proportion of their cash towards a house-warming party.

There area also a number of quick and easy ways for homeowners to improve the energy efficiency of their properties, which may in turn make them more attractive to buyers in the future.

Gordon Miller, sustainability and communications director of Sustain, said proper insulation does not cost much and is supported by government grants.

"Before you even think about trying to generate electricity or hot water, make sure that the home is properly insulated," he commented.

For buyers, purchasing an eco-friendly home will not necessarily cost any more than it would to buy a conventional home, Mr Miller added.

Last month, the Energy Technologies Institute revealed a new £3 million project to design a supply chain solution to improve the energy efficiency of the 26 million homes still expected to be in use by 2050. The project includes identifying ways existing properties can be retrofitted and stimulating demand for eco-friendly housing.

All these improvements can help to keep heat inside the four walls during cold snaps – meaning lower bills.

Construction industry suffering from economic downturn

A RECENT drop-off in construction orders is bad news for the industry according to the Federation of Master Builders (FMB), after surveyors reported a fall in total construction workloads.

Figures from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors found

public housing and other municipal works were the worst-affected sectors, probably as a result of cuts in government spending.

Additionally, the latest Markit/CIPS Construction Purchasing Managers' Index shows UK construction activity

slowed to its weakest level in four months in July.

"Sadly, none of this is a total surprise as it reflects the feedback we have been getting from our members about the building industry suffering because there is less government money avail-

able for capital projects," said Brian Berry, director of external affairs at the FMB.

However, he went on to say the Government's Green Deal, which will see 26 million homes retrofitted, could potentially offer new job opportunities for builders.

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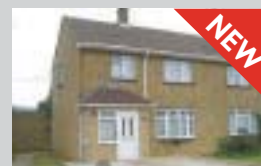
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Key Skills: Experience in Digital & Analogue design, preferably incorporating video technologies; Experience of schematic entry and multilayer PCB design for complete design cycle from concept to production release

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Primarily responsible for the support of R&D for prototyping & testing of new designs, creation of technical documentation, maintaining quality of product and documentation
Key Skills: Experience in electronics product testing role (Hardware/Software etc), familiar with quality controls & testing standards, Good communication skills

To apply for any of these positions contact:
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Jason Pyne, Development Director
KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.
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About us

KOS Media publishes the UK award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and a series of free weekly newspapers, magazines and associated websites and mobile products.

The company produces kentnews.co.uk and yourkentTV, an internet-based TV service providing regional and local news, business and sport, plus websites for jobs, property and motors.

KOS Media's newspapers have won more than 10 national awards, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year, and UK Free Weekly Newspaper of the Year six times.

In June, 2010, media group Archant purchased KOS Media.

Archant is the UK's largest independently owned regional media business

It is a community media company active in the fields of regional newspaper and magazine publishing, contract printing and internet communications. All its titles serve clearly defined communities, based around locations or interest groups.

Archant can trace its roots back more than 160 years and today remains one of the country's largest independent media businesses. As a private company it employs 1,850 people right across England. It has an annual turnover of £142 million.

The newspaper division, Archant Regional, produces four daily regional newspapers and around 60 weekly titles with a combined circulation of 2.25 million copies every week. It is a UK top six regional newspaper publisher. It also publishes many of the group's 180 websites and a number of its magazines.

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St. John's Infant School is committed to safeguarding young people. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. Applications will only be accepted by application form and supporting letter. References will be taken up before interviews, to be held during the week beginning 27th September.

For an application pack, please contact: Susan Bowers, HR Services, Schools, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham. Kent ME4 4TR Tel: (01634) 331100 email susan.bowers@medway.gov.uk

Starting date: 1st January 2011
Closing date for applications: 1pm Friday 17th September

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Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk Alternatively, you can email recruitment@kca.org.uk or call 01795 590795 and select option three. Please quote reference 704.

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Interview date: Monday 27 September 2010.

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**Career opportunities at MidKent College**

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Electrical Installation**Ref: P0357**

Salary: £28,463 - £32,251 per annum (dependant on qualifications and experience)
Medway

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**Closing date: 12 noon on Wednesday 15 September 2010.
Interviews to be held on Monday 20 September 2010.**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

**Career opportunities at MidKent College**

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Customer Services Supervisor**Ref: P0070**

Salary: £18,709 - £21,994 per annum
Maidstone

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The successful candidate will have a customer-focussed approach towards excellence, be confident and self motivated with the ability to work on own initiative demonstrating confidence in decision making. The candidate must also have the ability to plan, prioritise and monitor their own work and the work of the team.

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A recognised customer service and / or management qualification would be desirable along with basic health and safety training with a commitment to gain an IoSH qualification in "Managing Safely".

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Closing date: Wednesday 15 September 2010

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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CRICKET

BY STEVE TERVET

Kent League Division Two

Minster 1st XI v Tenterden 1st XI

MINSTER go into Saturday's game against Hayes knowing anything other than victory is likely to send them through the Division Two relegation trapdoor.

Trailing fellow strugglers Hayes by eight points, Minster's destiny is out of their hands with Orpington sandwiched between the pair and able to send the Sheppey side down if they win at home to mid-table HSBC.

Minster lost to Tenterden by 54 runs on Saturday – a result which not only kept them deep in the mire, but sealed the league title for Daniel McDonald's side.

With Tenterden batting first, Minster made the perfect start with two quick wickets. Tim Curteis departing for a duck and Andrew Crawford then removed for just three, with Adil Mohmand claiming both victims.

Mohmand continued to chip away at the Tenterden middle-order, but 23 from Simon Berry and 36 from Timir Chanda steadied the visitors temporarily.

However, they were unable to build on the platform and Minster came back into proceedings to bowl Tenterden out for 168, despite some late resistance from Ryan Knight (17) and James Rand (20).

Minster, in their reply, started poorly with two of their top-three out without scoring and Neil Hosken making just seven.

Their run-chase never got going and Craig O'Donoghue's 28 was the highlight of a sorry-looking card as they were bowled out for 114 in the 35th over.

Chanda and Knight both took three wickets for Tenterden, who bounce back up to Division One a year after being relegated.

Final day destiny is out of Minster's hands after loss



WAITING: Minster (batting) need to win this weekend and hope Orpington fail to win at home or the Sheppey side will go down

SCORE CARD

Tenterden 1st XI

	Runs
Tim Curteis b Mohmand	0
Andrew Crawford b Mohmand	3
Simon Berry ct Duggan b Woodford	23
Paul Brann b Mohmand	16
Timir Chanda ct Whetnall b Woodford	36
Ben Daking b Mohmand	2
Ben Leale-Green c&b Woodford	2
Daniel McDonald run out	21
Ryan Knight ct Duggan b Hughes	17
James Rand ct Rees b Hughes	20
Mark Baker not out	3

Extras	25
Total (all out, 50 overs)	168

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Mike Rees	15	5	24	0
Adil Mohmand	14	3	41	4
Paul Woodford	15	1	53	3
Gareth Whetnall	3	0	16	0
Callum Hughes	3	0	27	2

Minster 1st XI

	Runs
Gareth Whetnall ct Leale-Green b Rand	0
Neil Hosken c&b Rand	7
George Duggan ct Curteis b Chanda	0
Chris Collins ct Chanda b Knight	15
Andy Hosken lbw b Knight	8
Jordan Weller ct McDonald b Baker	0
Craig O'Donoghue b Chanda	28
Callum Hughes b Chanda	21
Mike Rees not out	13
Paul Woodford ct Brann b Baker	0
Adil Mohmand st McDonald b Knight	6

Extras (7b 3lb 3w 3nb)	16
Total (all out, 35 overs)	114

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
James Rand	11	4	22	2
Timir Chanda	12	3	25	3
Ryan Knight	6	0	32	3
Mark Baker	6	0	25	2

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Bromley 1st XI v Gore Court 1st XI

GORE Court's miserable season finally comes to an end on Saturday as they bid farewell to the Premier Division with a home game against Lordswood.

On Saturday, they lost to champions Bromley by nine wickets, having elected to bat and been bowled out for 81.

Karl Pearson's 22 was the largest individual contribution with Thomas Mees tearing through the Court card with 5 for 9 from his eight overs.

James Goodman then finished unbeaten on 53 as Bromley sealed the win, and the league title, inside 15 overs.

Gore Court 1st XI

	Runs
Karl Pearson c&b Mees	22
Alex Campbell ct Harrison b Dennington	5
Tyler Griffin b Mees	16
Hal Pearson b Mees	21
Steve Salisbury ct Harrison b Mees	0
Alex Edwards ct Goodman b Giddins	6
Jamie Lavers b Giddins	0
Dave Crompton lbw b Mees	1
Michael Neame b Giddins	0
James Newell not out	0

Extras (6lb 4w)	10
Total (all out, 27.3 overs)	81

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Matthew Dennington	6	0	22	1
Ricardo Anderson	5	0	15	0
Edward Giddins	8.3	1	29	3
Thomas Mees	8	4	9	5

Bromley 1st XI

	Runs
James Goodman	53
James Butterfill lbw b K Pearson	9
Miguel Barbosa	14
Paul Harrison	did not bat
Alan Wells	did not bat
Grant Sheen	did not bat
Matthew Dennington	did not bat
Thomas Mees	did not bat
Michael Blunett	did not bat
Ricardo Anderson	did not bat
Edward Giddins	did not bat

Extras (1lb 5w)	6
Total (1 wicket, 14.2 overs)	82

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Karl Pearson	4	0	21	1
Tyler Griffin	5	0	30	0
James Newell	3.2	0	20	0
Dave Crompton	2	0	10	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE

1A CENTRAL

Bearsted 1st XI v Upchurch 3rd XI

RELEGATION looms large for Upchurch 3rds after they lost to Bearsted by two wickets to leave themselves 20 points adrift of safety with one game remaining.

Luke Jessop hit 42 for the visitors and Alan Collis added 26 as Upchurch were bowled out for 152. With figures of 3 for 9, Richard Filmer was the pick of the Bearsted bowlers.

Upchurch kept battling and Bearsted wickets tumbled in their reply, but they reached their target with two wickets in hand – Stephen Pearce top-scoring with 33.

Upchurch 3rd XI

Timothy Goodwin	.ct Sandhu b Benjamin	23
Sam James	.ct Filmer b Benjamin	5
Owain Morton	run out	18
Luke Jessop	.ct Pearce b Filmer	42
Alan Collis	c&b Dampier	26
Daniel Overbury	b Filmer	7
Jerry Overbury	lbw b Dampier	9
Joseph Danton	b Sandhu	1
Harry Stanford	run out	1
Kieran Tyler	not out	2
Tony Bond	b Filmer	0

Extras (1b 4lb 11w 2nb)	18
Total (all out, 40.1 overs)	152

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Mark Sandhu	9	2	15	1
Steven Benjamin	12	1	57	2
Andrew Dampier	12	5	41	2
Mark Hodges	3	0	25	0
Richard Filmer	5.1	1	9	3

Bearsted 1st XI

Peter Clark	ct Danton b Collis	Runs
Stephen Heap	ct Morton b Bond	9
Stephen Pearce	b Stanford	33
Mark Hodges	ct J Overbury b D Overbury	16
Tim Croom	b Danton	8
Dan Cowell	c&b Danton	12
Christopher Filmer	ct Morton b Stanford	7
Richard Filmer	b Danton	5
Andrew Dampier	not out	8
Mark Sandhu	not out	5
Steven Benjamin	did not bat	

Extras (12b 2lb 8w 9nb)	31
Total (8 wickets, 40.4 overs)	153

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Tony Bond	12	3	28	1
Alan Collis	8	3	33	1
Daniel Overbury	7	1	33	1
Joseph Danton	6	1	18	3
Harry Stanford	5	0	22	2
Kieran Tyler	2.4	1	5	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

Bapchild 1st XI v Chislehurst & West Kent 1st XI

BAPCHILD go into the season's final weekend on a high after recording a six-wicket victory at home to Chislehurst & West Kent on Saturday.

Travis King hit 81 for Chislehurst as the visitors posted 201, with Bapchild's Matthew Roche taking 4 for 56.

The home side then wrapped up the win for the loss of four wickets, with Lee Cogger (45), Ricky Dale (39 not out) and Adam Larking (38) their main contributors.

Chislehurst & West Kent 1st XI

	Runs
Mark Philpot	ct Hunt b Roberts 9
Wilhelm von Mollendorff	ct Dale b Roberts 6
Hetti Waruna Rajapasha	ct Heatley b Ward 0
Adam Molloy	b Roche 9
Harry Stafford	ct Hunt b Dale 45
Travis King	b Roche 81
Daniel Muller	ct Dale b Roche 11
Andy Robinson	ct Larking b Roche 11
Paul Crowdy	not out 13
Max Freeman	run out 0
Eddie Forshaw	lbw b Larking 0

Extras (6b 6lb 4w 2nb)	18
Total (all out, 43.4 overs)	201

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Steve Roberts	9	0	36	2
Alex Ward	7	1	11	1
Joshua Hunt	5	1	30	0
Matthew Roche	13	0	56	4
Ricky Dale	6	0	37	1
Adam Larking	3.4	0	19	1

Bapchild 1st XI

		Runs
Adam Larking	ct Crowdy b King	38
Lee Cogger	b Robinson	45
Luke Mackay	ct von Mollendorff b King	13
Joe Mills	ct Rajapasha b King	31
Ricky Dale	not out	39
John Heatley	not out	17
Joshua Hunt	did not bat	
Alex Ward	did not bat	
Lincoln Bryden	did not bat	
Steve Roberts	did not bat	
Matthew Roche	did not bat	

Extras (8b 8lb 1w 5nb)	22
Total (4 wickets, 42.5 overs)	205

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Andy Robinson	11	2	28	1
Eddie Forsshaw	7	0	40	0
Travis King	14	3	56	3
Paul Crowdy	4	0	17	0
Wilhelm von Mollendorff	3	0	11	0
Hetti Waruna Rajapasha	1	0	15	0
Mark Philpot	2	0	8	0
Max Freeman	1	0	14	0

KENT REGIONAL LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 1st XI v Dartfordians 1st XI

THE fight for promotion to the Kent League will go down to the final day of the season after Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow beat Dartfordians by 61 runs at Rook Lane.

Bobbing trail second-placed Nonington by five points, with both sides vying to exit the Regional League alongside champions Cowdrey.

On Saturday, Daniel Ball's 47 helped Bobbing post 158 for 9 and Dartfordians were then bowled out for 97, despite a knock of 47 from Simon Harman.

Bobbing's Trevor Earl picked up 3 for 23.

Bobbing Court & Lower Halstow 1st XI

Adam Howard	.ct Bygrave b Harman	Runs
Gary Ryan	.ct Scott b Barden	31
Paul Dennington	.ct Kellett b Curtis	16
Simon Bennett	.b Barden	9
Jamie Ward	.ct Scott b Barden	10
Daniel Ball	.b Harman	47
Iain Foster	.b Curtis	7
Trevor Earl	.ct Fentiman b Scott	17
Paul Bacon	.not out	9
Dominic Soave	.b Harman	7
Paul Aylward	.not out	0

Extras (2b 1lb 1w 1nb)	5
Total (9 wickets, 46 overs)	158

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Chris Scott	10	1	30	1
Shakeel Zuberi	4	0	19	0
Steve Barden	8	3	28	3
Simon Harman	11	2	32	3
Jim Curtis	8	3	19	2
Iain Walford	5	0	27	0

Dartfordians 1st XI

		Runs
Dan Bygrave	.ct Haward b Bacon.	1
David Fitzpatrick	.ct Haward b Bacon.	1
Simon Harman	.ct Ward b Dennington.	4
Oliver Lyth	.ct Ryan b Aylward.	1
Jon Kellett	.ct Haward b Aylward.	1
Chris Scott	.lbw b Earl.	2
James Fentiman	.b Earl.	0
Shakeel Zuberi	.ct Ryan b Dennington.	2
Steve Barden	.run out.	2
Jim Curtis	.b Earl.	1
Ian Walford	.not out.	7

Extras (8b 5lb 2w)	15
Total (all out, 35.2 overs)	97

Bowlers	O	M	R	W
Paul Bacon	9	2	29	2
Paul Aylward	10	5	20	2
Trevor Earl	9	2	23	3
Paul Dennington	7.2	1	12	2

Fleet next up for Town as Luchford nets again

FOOTBALL

BY YOURSWALE REPORTER

Faversham Town 2

Luchford 43, Lye 60

Pagham 0

FAVERSHAM will face Fleet Town in the FA Cup first qualifying round after a resilient display helped them see off Sussex League side Pagham on Saturday.

Goals in each half from Danny Lye and Dane Luchford settled the tie at the Shepherd Neame Stadium, although the Lilywhites did not have things all their own way in a testing encounter.

Pagham have started their season strongly, but were forced to weather an early Faversham storm, with Darren Pearce clearing off the goal-line and goalkeeper Wes Hallett producing an acrobatic save to keep the scoresheet blank.

After that, the visitors started to assert themselves on proceedings and Michael Frangou drew a smart save from Rob French – the first of several good stops from the Town goalkeeper.

Lye sent a weak shot wide of goal from a rare Faversham foray forward and it looked as



FAMILY AFFAIR: Faversham boss Justin Luchford (right) and brother Dane (left)

though the Lions could grab the initiative as half-time beckoned.

Scott Murfin brought the best out of French with a stinging shot and Ryan Cox headed over as Justin Luchford's side attempted to find their feet. The home side's cause was not helped when Dale Skelton limped off injured, with Justin Ascheri his replacement.

Just as it looked like the half would end goal-less, though, Faversham took the lead when Luchford, racing onto a ball from the left, smashed home the opener for his second goal in three games.

Keen to get themselves back on terms,

Faversham Town starting XI



Subs used: Ascheri (Skelton 25), Hill (Sinden 62)

Pagham came out brightly in the second period and could have levelled within a minute of the restart were it not for another splendid French save.

The missed opportunity proved a turning point and Faversham proceeded to dominate possession, with Richard Sinden going close, before the hosts made it 2-0. A long ball forward was directed towards Lye and his header beat Hallett for a simple goal to effectively end the game as a contest.

Still Pagham pressed and debutant Paul Jones went close to pulling a goal back before Murfin tried his luck again, without success.

Faversham could have scored a third late on, but Matt Bourne sent his header wide of the post and the Lilywhites were left to celebrate their second win in five days.

Luchford's side travelled to Whitstable Town for their first Kent derby of the season on Bank Holiday Monday. Log on to www.yoursware.co.uk for a match report and reaction.

FOOTBALL



PLEASED: Norton player/manager Ben Taylor

Battling Norton into next round

Norton Sports 1 Bandstead Athletic 0

A TRIP to Kent League rivals Beckenham Town awaits Norton Sports in the FA Cup first qualifying round after Ben Taylor's side battled past Banstead Athletic on Saturday.

Norton started at a higher tempo against their Combined Counties opponents and despite having to change their normal formation due to injury and suspension, they looked the most likely scorers.

On five minutes, Tony Clark was set free but his attempt to lift the ball over the oncoming goalkeeper was weak. Seven minutes later, though, a Ryan Rook corner was met by Lewis Rivett, who got to the ball first and flicked it into the top corner for the opening goal.

As the half progressed, the game became stuck in midfield with both sides failing to force any real opportunities and Norton were disappointed to only lead 1-0 at the break.

Pressure

The second-half opened much the same as the first with both sides failing to keep the ball, but Norton rarely found themselves under pressure due to the sterling work put in by captain Jack Goodger.

Banstead only looked dangerous at set-pieces, but Norton's failure to keep the ball started to put them under unnecessary pressure.

However, the game was settled five minutes from time when Ashley Baverstock collected the ball 20 yards out, turned and volleyed over the keeper with the aid of a slight deflection.

The win extends Norton's fine start to the season, with Taylor's side now unbeaten in four games in league and cup. Progress in the FA Cup also prolongs their stay at Winch's Field, where they are registered for all FA competitions.

Norton are in cup action again this Saturday when they host New Milton Town in the FA Vase first qualifying round. The New Forest side have made a dreadful start in the Wessex League Premier Division, losing their opening five games.

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GILLS boss Andy Hessenthaler reflects on his side's game at Southend last night



LINE-UP: Sheppey are preparing for the new season

Islanders coach close to naming his first XV

RUGBY

SHEPPEY RFC continued their pre-season preparations with a four-team tournament at Rye on Saturday, giving coach Pete Olliver the chance to assess his whole squad.

The Islanders were due to face Orpington in the Kent Vase but the Kent 2 side pulled out of the tie with several of the squad struck down by illness.

However, Olliver said the trip to Sussex had been a useful exercise and believes he is now close to knowing his best XV ahead of the first league game at Gillingham Anchorians on September 11.

Sheppey did not concede a single point across their three games, beating Rye 2nds 46-0, Eastbourne 24-0 and Rye 1sts 20-0, much to the satisfaction of Olliver.

He said: "We only had 90 minutes of rugby but we probably got more benefit out of those three games than we would playing Orpington. There's a couple of question marks over certain positions, but I think I know 12 or 13 of the team to play in the first game."

Whether the Vase tie will be rearranged now rests with the Kent RFU, although Olliver said Sheppey would happily play the tie on a new date. For now, their immediate focus is their final pre-season friendly, against Bexley on Saturday.

Bourne's hopes of decent FA Cup run ended by own goal

FOOTBALL

Sittingbourne 0 Andover 1

SITTINGBOURNE'S hopes of an FA Cup run were ended at the first hurdle on Saturday as Joe Bannan's own goal gifted Andover a slender victory at Bourne Park.

The Brickies played with ten men for more than an hour after Billy Manners was dismissed for pushing over Matthew Styles in the penalty area.

Andover were unable to convert the spot-kick, however, with Youssef Banda's stuttering run-up followed by a shot that ballooned high over the crossbar.

Tom Bradbrook and Ross Morley were both denied on more than one occasion in the opening stages as Andover rode their luck and even after the sending-off, the Brickies looked the more dangerous side.

Hicham Akhazzan's cross was almost converted by Bradbrook as half-time approached and Akhazzan then set up Nick Reeves, who headed narrowly wide.

Bradbrook, who seemed destined to open the scoring, threatened again in the early moments of the second-half, but his shot flew just wide of the upright.

Nicholas Ogbanute then missed a glorious opportunity for Andover when he found himself one-on-one with Matt Reed, only to inexplicably put the ball wide of goal.

The breakthrough arrived soon after, however, when Bannan's attempted header back to Reed cleared the goalkeeper and dropped into the Sittingbourne net.



CHANCES: Tom Bradbrook (left) looked dangerous for Sittingbourne but failed to find the back of the net

Late Brickies' pressure failed to provide an equaliser, despite the best efforts of Joe Vines and substitute Elie Kayembe.

Gary Abbott's side were in action last night, with Merstham the visitors in Ryman South. Log on to www.yoursware.co.uk for a match report and reaction.

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